

# amateur radio

OCTOBER, 1972

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6AM5 [EL91]	..	.....	2.37
6AM5 [EF91]	..	.....	2.39
6AN7 [ECH85]	..	.....	1.90
6AN9	..	.....	3.06
6AR7GT	..	.....	2.28
6AU6GT/A	..	.....	1.84
6AU6	..	.....	1.81
6AU7	..	.....	2.07
6AU8	..	.....	3.08
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6BD7 [EBC80]	..	.....	3.89
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6BV7	..	.....	1.81
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6BW7	..	.....	2.29
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6C2	..	.....	1.81
6CA7 [EL34]	..	.....	3.58
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6CDB	..	.....	1.80
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6E17 [EF184]	..	.....	1.84
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6U7G	..	.....	0.75
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6Y8 [EFL200]	..	.....	2.30
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12AU7A [ECC82]	..	.....	1.72
12AX7 [ECC83]	..	.....	1.95
12BE6	..	.....	2.02
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18A3	..	.....	2.15
18A8 [PCL82]	..	.....	2.48
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# amateur radio

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## Editor:

Bill Roper VK3ARZ

## Publications Committee:

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Bruce Bathols VK3ASE  
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Peter Brown VKAPJ  
Rodney Champness VK3UG  
Don Grantley  
Eric Jamieson VK3LP  
Geoff Wilson VK3AMK

## Drafting Assistants:

Andrew Davis VK1DA  
Paul Niehoff VK3YFJ  
Gordon Row L30187

## Business Manager:

Peter S. Dodd VK3CIF

## Publishing Associates:

Les Gough VK3ZH  
Ron Higginbotham VK3RN

## Enquiries and material to:

The Editor, Phone (03) 24-9652.  
P.O. Box 150, Toorak, Vic., 3142.

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## COVER

These two Cubs from the 1st Glen Waverley Group were caught getting in some early practice at a local Amateur shack for the 15th Jamboree-on-the-Air to be held on 21st-22nd October, 1972.

(Photo VK3ZU)

# QSP

## The Net Frequency Syndrome

One of the unique aspects of the Amateur Service is the ability of an operator to select his own working frequency within the allocated band. Most other Services are confined to spot frequency or net operation and it is only since the advent of s.s.b. on h.f. and carphones on v.h.f. that this net frequency type of operation has become popular amongst Amateurs. By its nature, net operation is a community affair and as such, certain disciplines must be exercised if all are to enjoy the benefits of the net. However, with people being people, there will always be someone to cause a disturbance by not abiding by the necessary disciplines—a "net nit". "QST" had something to say about this problem recently.\*

"All of us take a crack at psychology at one time or another, in one way or another and in the case of deliberate repeater or simplex frequency interference we can look at it two ways. One is from the stand-point of the person causing the interference—a person whose sick mind is intent on attracting attention to himself in this manner. Just as the deliberate interference is irritating to those affected, deliberate and studied ignoring of it is irritating to the person doing it. Initially such an action will result in making it worse as the maniac intensifies his efforts to call attention to himself. Ignore him—don't even mention his presence on the air—don't even admit that you are hearing him. Creeping

frustration will result and eventually, if you stick to your guns he will go away, possibly to cause interference elsewhere where he can get some attention—or perhaps ride naked down the street on a motorcycle.

"The second way of looking at the interference problem is from the stand-point of the people on the receiving end of the interference. The interfering operator may be called an idiot, a moron, an imbecile, is threatened, vilified and in every way possible is let know that his efforts to disrupt the net are being **successful**—this by operators on the net who want to call attention to **themselves**. For example, an operator may take over the net frequency and tell the interfering operator off, another invites him to call on the phone and even reverse the charges, still another offers to pay the interfering station so much an hour to stay on the air so that monitors can triangulate. This delights the interfering operator by satisfying his ego and at the same time makes the other operators feel big also because they are doing something about it. But what do these actions and reactions do for the public image of Amateur Radio?

"So if someone does get on a net frequency for the avowed and admitted purpose of causing interference, there are only two ways to get rid of him. First by ignoring him. If that doesn't work, perhaps monitors can be brought into the act. Neither of these methods is instantaneous and neither is foolproof, so the third thing to do is simply to grin and bear it, and remember that it takes all kinds of people to make a world—and Amateur Radio."

\* Adopted from "QST" for April 1972 with acknowledgments to WIN7M, W4HIA and W9CRO.

D. H. RANKIN, VK3QV,  
Federal Vice-President, W.I.A.

## Stop Press: AO-C now due to be launched on October 15 or 16

### COMMUNICATING: WHY NO "A.R."?

Amateurs seem to be notorious about communicating changes of address, call sign, or other essential details to their Division and/or to "A.R.". Each month an average of about 10 "A.R."s are "returned to sender" by the Post Office. When this occurs the mailing service is told to remove the address plate forthwith. It stays out until a new address comes to hand. Please advise any address, call sign or other changes promptly and indicate whether the change of address applies to "A.R." only or to the Call Book as well.

### ANOTHER SPECIAL PREFIX

In a letter from A.R.S.I. advice is given that the Indian authorities have allocated an optional call prefix VT9 to Indian Amateurs for the period 18th August to 31st December, 1972, to mark the 50th anniversary of Independence.

### HANDY BEARING CHARTS

William D. Johnston, WB3CSC, writes in an article to "A.R." about the availability of computer charts for forward and reverse bearings between any two or more places on the face of the globe. The present availability of great circle maps based on various Australian centres is good, but if anyone would like more details please write to the author at 1808 Pomona Drive, Lea Cruces, New Mexico, U.S.A., 88061.

### MICROWAVE BAND LETTERING

In response to the August QSP on this subject ("Those Lettered Bands"), VK3ZKQ writes about the confusion which exists in the lettering system in use. From the tables included with his letter, it seems desirable to talk about frequency ranges in terms of GHz, until the various ranges become specifically identified or universally accepted in abbreviated form.

### RECIPROCAL LICENSING

In clarification of the correspondence published in August 1972 "A.R." page 17, the P.M.G. Radio Branch has confirmed in writing that the "attached statement" refers only to overseas applicants visiting Australia for a temporary period exceeding 12 months or who intend to settle permanently in Australia. It was also confirmed that visitors issued with a "temporary" period licence shall be subject to Australian terms and conditions applicable to the kind of licence (e.g. Full or Limited) they possess.

### STUDENT EXCHANGE

Plans have been finalized with A.R.R.L. to send two Indian Radio Amateurs for training in the U.S.A. on Amateur Radio for a period of about six months. The trainees pay their own fares to and fro but "expenses" in the U.S.A. will be arranged by A.R.R.L. on this first phase of the "pilot" scheme. (Indian Radio Amateur, Feb. 1972.)

# Using the Plessey SL600 Series Integrated Circuits in Transceivers

JAMES M. BRYANT,\* G8FNT

● The SL600 series comprises r.f. and i.f. amplifiers with low cross-modulation and good a.g.c.; a.f. amplifiers with and without a.g.c.; high performance balanced modulators; speech a.g.c. generators; and a complex circuit containing a.m. and s.s.b. detectors and a c.w. operated a.g.c. system.

This article describes some transmitters and receivers that can be built from SL600 devices, but does not cover either the audio sections (except as they may affect the operation of the rest) or, in the case of transmitters, the high power r.f. amplifiers. It is divided into two sections, the first describes a variety of systems using the circuits, the second gives circuit details and comments on some potential causes of trouble. A printed circuit layout of one system is illustrated as an example.

## RECEIVER SYSTEMS

### The Synchrodyne

The simplest receiver that can be built from SL600 devices is shown in Fig. 1a. It is not the most common, being a synchrodyne, or direct conversion receiver. Such receivers may be used for the reception of a.m., s.s.b. and c.w. The v.f.o. is tuned to the carrier frequency in the case of a.m. and s.s.b., and to a few hundred Hertz away in the case of c.w., this results in the demodulation of the a.m. and s.s.b. and an audible beat with the c.w.

Upper and lower sidebands are equally well detected by this receiver and, if the audio passband is limited, it is very selective. If, however, it is used to receive, say, an upper sideband s.s.b. signal with a carrier frequency  $f$  kHz, then another such signal with carrier frequency of  $(f - 2 \text{ or } 3)$  kHz will, if present, be detected, though not intelligibly, and cause interference. Such interference may be removed, and one sideband only detected, by use of the phasing system in Fig. 1c.

The system in Fig. 1a is, of course, only a detector and as such is not very sensitive and has no a.g.c. A more complete system, illustrated in Fig. 1b, has r.f. filters to minimise cross modulation, an r.f. amplifier (or r.f. amplifiers), a.g.c. and perhaps an S meter. Depending on the sensitivity required and the a.f. gain available, one or two r.f. amplifiers can be used.

The SL610 has gain of 20 dB, and frequency response of at least up to 146 MHz. (N.B.—This performance, which exceeds that of the data sheet, depends on very careful layout, very short leads, and very great attention to coupling and decoupling of supplies and a.g.c.; however, Amateurs who use these devices on the two metre band—144-146 MHz—find their performance at these frequencies satisfactory.)



BASIC DIRECT CONVERSION RECEIVER—FIG. 1a

The figures for the SL611 and SL612 are 26 dB, and 80 MHz., and 34 dB, and 15 MHz. respectively.

Which amplifier is used, here as in all the other systems to be described, depends on the frequency and gain required. The SL612 has the extra advantage of a lower current consumption and slightly lower noise figure.

Fig. 1(c) shows a more complex direct conversion receiver which employs r.f. and a.f. phasing to cancel one sideband so that it is a truly single sideband receiver. It is necessary to have accurate phasing of the signals and well matched gain in the two audio channels before the summing stage. Upper or lower sideband may be selected by reversing the phasing of the audio (or the r.f., but audio is easier). The system illustrated detects L.s.b. when the upper channel phase shift is positive.

### The Conventional Superhet.

A much more conventional superhet receiver is shown in Fig. 2(a). It consists of an r.f. stage with a.g.c. (which would probably be an SL610), an SL640 (or 641) mixer, an i.f. filter which could be LC, crystal or ceramic, an i.f. amplifier with a.g.c. and a detector. The i.f. amplifier could be one or two stages, depending on the sensitivity required, but would normally have a.g.c. applied to one stage only. For the s.s.b. and c.w. detector an SL640 (or 641) with a beat frequency oscillator would be suitable followed by an SL621 to provide audio a.g.c.; for a.m. an SL623 is used which also generates carrier a.g.c. and, with a b.f.o., detects c.w. or s.s.b. An SL432 or an SAA570 will detect f.m., but a separate carrier detector is required to provide a.g.c.

A more complete superhet, with front end and both a.m. and s.s.b. detection, is shown in Fig. 2(b). The audio stage's input is switched between the outputs of the two detectors of the SL623. The a.g.c. line, which also drives an S meter, is switched between the c.w. a.g.c. output of the SL623 and the audio derived a.g.c. of an SL621 connected to the s.s.b. output of the SL623. The i.f. filter may also be switched, a narrow bandwidth one being used for s.s.b., a wider one for a.m. To detect n.b.f.m. a detector such as the SL432 or the SAA570 is connected to the output of the second SL612C. During n.b. f.m. reception a.g.c. should be taken from the SL623.

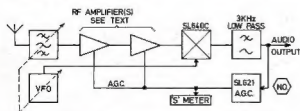
### Double Superhets.

Double superhets. may also be designed using SL600 devices but with modern filters double superhets. are rarely needed except at u.h.f. or where complex tuning systems are used. Inasmuch as the same techniques are used as in single superhets., no such systems will be described, but it should be noticed that SL600 devices have high gains, and too many amplifying stages should be avoided.

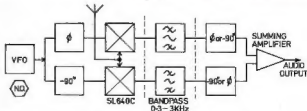
## TRANSMITTER SYSTEMS

### Filter Type S.S.B. Exciters

There are two types of s.s.b. generators commonly used: filter systems and phasing systems. A basic filter system



PRACTICAL DIRECT CONVERSION RECEIVER—FIG. 1b



SSB DIRECT CONVERSION RECEIVER—FIG. 1c

\* Lincas Applications Engineer, Plessey Co. Ltd., Cheney Manor, Swindon, Wilts., U.K.

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SN7490N .. ..	\$2.35		

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Other ICs on request.

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is shown in Fig. 3(a). The audio and a low radio frequency from an oscillator (the b.f.o. if the system is part of a transceiver) are mixed in an SL640 which, as a result of its good carrier rejection, gives as output a clean d.s.b. suppressed carrier signal. This is passed through a narrow bandpass filter to remove one sideband, in this case the lower. The s.s.b. (in this case u.s.b.) remaining is converted to the final frequency by another SL640 and the image is removed by a filter. The output goes to the transmitter linear amplifier.

Fig. 3(b) shows a more complete filter system. It has an internal amplifier which is controlled by an a.l.c. (automatic level control) signal which, in most cases, will be derived from the final linear amplifier—either by a threshold detection system or by grid current detection in the output valve.

### R.F. Clipping

The envelope of an s.s.b. signal does not resemble the audio producing it. Therefore audio limiting and clipping are not useful techniques for increasing the average to peak power ratio of an s.s.b. transmitter, although audio a.g.c. (derived, perhaps, from an SL622 vogad circuit) is. If clipping is carried out it must be performed on the sideband signal itself in the transmitter and, furthermore, the sideband must be filtered afterwards to remove splatter. Such a system needs careful initial adjustment! but yields remarkably good results. One is illustrated in Fig. 3(c).

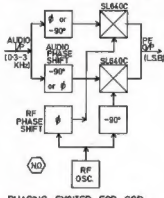
The input audio, which should be controlled by a.g.c., is converted to s.s.b. as in the basic system and is then clipped by a symmetrical peak clipper. The signal is then re-filtered to remove splatter at 2f, 3f, etc., and passes through an a.l.c. amplifier and conversion to the final transmitter frequency. The level of the audio input or the

clipping level must be adjusted so that the received audio is of adequate quality—i.e. clipping must not be excessive (but see below for a fully clipped system).

If the clipper is replaced by a Schmitt trigger and the audio input given 12 dB/octave pre-emphasis above 1 kHz., the output may be fed to a class C rather than a linear amplifier and the signal received as s.s.b. though with slight distortion. This gives a peak power equal to mean power during speech and, if carrier leak is allowed to occur during pauses, so that the transmitter is always delivering the same power to the antenna, t.v.i. is much reduced. In this case a.l.c.—and hence the SL610C—is not needed.

### S.S.B. Phasing Exciters

A phasing system is shown in Fig. 4. Audio, which must normally be of limited bandwidth, is phase shifted so that two audio lines of equal amplitude



PHASING EXCITER FOR SSB  
FIG. 4

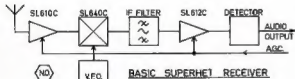
but 90° phase shift are obtained. These audio signals are applied to the signal inputs of two SL640s and r.f. reference and quadrature signals are applied to the carrier inputs. The two outputs are summed. If audio reference and carrier reference are applied to one modulator and audio and carrier quad to the other the l.s.b. outputs will be in phase and will add and the u.s.b. will be out of phase and will cancel—thus l.s.b. is obtained. Similarly if audio reference and carrier quad are applied to one and audio quad and carrier reference to the other, u.s.b. is obtained.

This method appears attractive in many respects and has the advantages that no expensive filters are used and that the carrier frequency may be varied so that further conversion may not be necessary. It is compatible with the direct conversion s.s.b. receiver illustrated in Fig. 1(c) and a very simple transceiver can be built using the two systems. The drawback is that to keep the second sideband 40 dB. below the desired sideband the phasing, both audio and r.f., must be very accurate—in fact within 2°. Also, the amplitude of the carrier applied to one modulator must be adjusted to minimise second sideband generation. Carrier leak must be minimised on both the modulators.

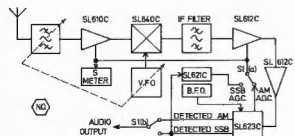
Despite the adjustment problems, this method of s.s.b. generation is very popular—probably because of the saving of expensive filters.

### Amplitude Modulation

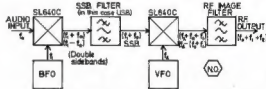
Since a.m. is merely d.s.b. with carrier an SL640 may be used as an amplitude modulator if its carrier leak is increased. If a 15K resistor is connected between pin 2 of an SL640 and earth (as in Fig. 5) there will be sufficient carrier leak for the output of the SL640 to be a.m. By switching in and out the resistor a.m. or d.s.b. may



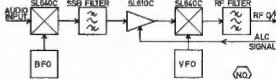
BASIC SUPERHET RECEIVER  
FIG. 2a



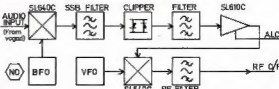
COMPLETE AM SSB SUPERHET RECEIVER - FIG. 2b



BASIC FILTER TYPE SSB TRANSMITTER - FIG. 3a

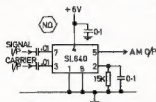


SSB TRANSMITTER WITH ALC - FIG. 3b



SSB TRANSMITTER WITH RF CLIPPING - FIG. 3c

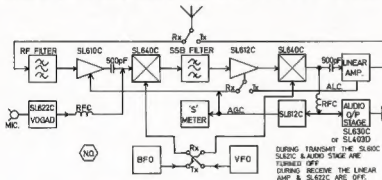
be produced—if the filters following the SL640 are also switched a.m., d.s.b. or s.s.b. may be obtained from the same SL640 with the same inputs. This enables a multi-mode transmitter to be made with very few components.



AMPLITUDE MODULATOR—FIG. 5

## TRANSCEIVER SYSTEMS

As is evident if Fig. 2(b) and Fig. 3(b) or Fig. 1(c) and Fig. 4 are studied together, s.s.b. transmitters and s.s.b. receivers of the same type are very similar. Therefore, by a little signal switching, it is possible to make one set of SL600 devices perform both as a transmitter and as a receiver—i.e. as a transceiver. This, of course, saves both on SL600 integrated circuits—which in any case are quite cheap—and on filters which are not. Fig. 6 shows the block diagram of an s.s.b. transceiver. Similarly a phasing transceiver uses far less parts than a phasing transmitter plus a phasing receiver.



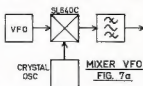
SSB TRANCEIVER—FIG. 6

## OTHER SYSTEMS

SL600 devices may also be used in various other parts of transceivers. Some examples are shown in Fig. 7.

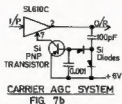
### Mixer V.F.O.

Fig. 7(a) shows a mixer v.f.o. which mixes the output of an i.f. v.f.o. with a crystal stable h.f. v.f.o. In a multiband receiver several crystals may be used to tune several bands with one v.f.o.



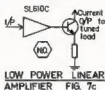
### Carrier A.L.C.

Fig. 7(b) is an a.g.c. system designed to stabilise the amplitude of an r.f. carrier.



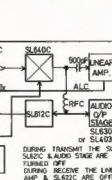
### Linear Amplifier

A low power, but simple, linear amplifier is shown in Fig. 7(c). The emitter resistor depends on the transistor used.



### Squelch

If audio squelch is required in a receiver the system in Fig. 7(d) will provide it. If pin 7 of an SL630 audio

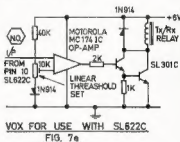


amplifier is earthed the circuit is muted—the circuit illustrated, when on, ensures that the SL630 is muted until the a.g.c. reaches a preset level. This prevents unwanted receiver noise when no station is being received. The a.g.c. may be derived from an SL621, and SL623 or other sources. Any high beta

silicon NPN transistors are suitable—an SL6301 monolithic dual transistor is illustrated.

### Vox

Similarly a vox (voiced operated transmitter) system may be added to a transceiver using the SL622 as its microphone amplifier. A possible circuit is shown in Fig. 7(e), it consists of an op.-amp. which is switched by the a.g.c. voltage of the SL622 and in turn switches the transmit/receive relay of the transceiver. The transistor can be any high gain silicon type which can carry the relay current—a Darlington arrangement must be used to ensure that the relay turns off again as the minimum output of the op.-amp. can sometimes be greater than 0.7v. above the negative line.



## USING THE CIRCUITS

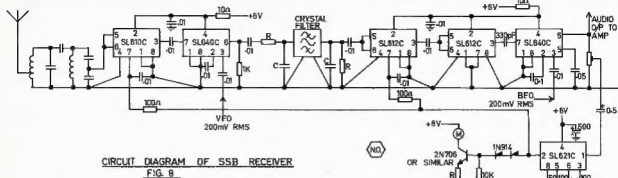
Fig. 8 is the circuit diagram of the receiver in Fig. 2(b). The simplest way of explaining the use of the SL600 family is to describe the circuit and its operation in detail.

The input filter depends on the band being tuned and the i.f.—it must be sufficiently narrow to give rejection at the image frequency—i.e. that frequency on the other side of the local oscillator from the wanted frequency and spaced the same amount from it. If such a frequency passes the input and mixes with the local oscillator it will produce an unwanted output at i.f. The method of coupling is chosen so that the SL610 input is never inductively terminated and also so that the tuned circuit is not loaded enough to reduce its Q. If an SL610 input looks inductive, instability is possible. When an SL610 is driven from a source which might be inductive the source should either be shunted with a few kilo-ohms or a few hundred ohms should be connected in series with the input.

The SL610 is biased (as are all the other r.f. and i.f. amplifiers in this receiver) by connecting its bias pin directly to its input pin. If coupling is made to an SL610, 11 or 12 as in Fig. 9(a), slightly lower noise will result but this is not usually worth the extra complication. It is important that the input and output earths of these devices are kept separate—output currents flowing in input earth leads tend to produce instability.

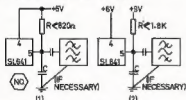
Both the a.g.c. line and the SL610 positive supply (which is shared with the SL640 mixer) are decoupled to earth. Ideally, this is not necessary but r.f. on h.t. and a.g.c. lines can cause trouble with some layouts (the SL640 supply is not internally decoupled





although the SL610 is) and where expense does not rule it out it is recommended. To minimise the output current loop of the SL610 the earth of the SL640 should be as near to the output earth (pin 8) of the SL610 as possible.

The SL640 acts as the first mixer and its output drives the input of the filter. The filter must be terminated by the correct impedance (pure resistance or resistance shunted by capacity) and if the resistive component is low enough the SL641 may be used on one of the circuits in Fig. 9(b). This is the case wherever SL640s are used: they may be replaced by SL641s in certain circumstances. When output pin 6 of the SL640 is used an external load of  $>5600$  is required. This output is an emitter-follower of low  $Z_{out}$  and must not be used to drive capacitive loads. Some users have wanted inputs with  $<100\Omega$  d.c. resistance to earth. In this case the terminating resistor, as long as it is over  $5600$ , may also act as the load resistor, the d.c. blocking capacitor must **not** be used.



Pin 2 of SL640s or SL641s must be decoupled to earth by a low-leakage (<100 nA.) capacitor having low reactance (<10 $\Omega$ ) at the lowest input or carrier frequency. Carrier input from the local oscillator should be as free from modulation as possible and between 100 and 200 mV. r.m.s. in amplitude.

The broadband i.f. amplifier following the filter consists of two SL612s, a.g.c. is applied to one only. An SL610 has 50 dB. a.g.c. range and an SL612 70 dB., giving a total for two gain controlled stages of 120 dB.—if both SL612s were controlled this would be 190 dB., too much.

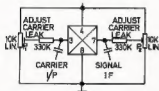
The positive supply to the i.f. stages and the SL640 detector is decoupled and care must be taken that earth current from the output of the strip cannot flow near its input as this leads to instability. The best earth arrangement for the i.f. strip is given in Fig. 9(c). No other connections should be made to the i.f. strip earth.

1K preset pot. The audio output to the amplifier is taken directly from pin 6, but the audio for the SL621 a.g.c. stage is taken from the potentiometer wiper. This enables the a.g.c. threshold to be adjusted so that noise in the set and aerial does not turn on the a.g.c. in the absence of signal. The coupling capacitor to the SL621 should not exceed 1  $\mu$ F., otherwise i.f. instability can result.

The SL621 will usually drive a 500  $\mu$ A. S meter connected (in series with 5.1K and three silicon diodes) from the a.g.c. rail to earth, but as such a load is sometimes too much for an SL621 the transistor circuit shown is preferable. The value of the emitter

As transmitters often contain large r.f. fields, particular attention must be paid to screening and decoupling. It may in some cases be necessary to decouple individual stages.

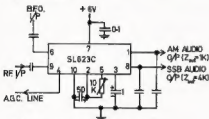
When generating s.s.b. or mixing frequencies in a transmitter the original input frequencies are not wanted in the output. The SL640 and 641 have some 30 dB signal and carrier rejection but this may be increased with the circuit in Fig. 9(d). With signal but no carrier P1 is adjusted for minimum signal leak, and with carrier but no signal P2 is adjusted for minimum carrier leak. All modulators used in transmitters may be adjusted in this way although it is less important in filter systems than in phasing systems.



**SIGNAL & CARRIER LEAK ADJUSTMENT - FIG. 9d**

The a.g.c. characteristics of the SL610, 611 and 612 are temperature dependent. It is unwise to use a voltage on an a.g.c. pin to set the gain of a stage (although it may be done where a.g.c. is applied to another stage in the chain to compensate for variations).

SL610s, 611s and 612s tend to oscillate if required to drive capacitive loads. Such loads should be buffered either by a resistance (SL610, 611: 47 ohms; SL612: 150 ohms) or another type of amplifier. When r.f. is taken from these SL600 amplifiers to points far removed from them care is essential to prevent instability caused by earth loop currents.



**SUGGESTED CIRCUIT FOR SL623C FIG. 10**

## USING THE SL623

Special mention must be made of the SL623 as it is not used in s.s.b. receivers but only on a.m./s.s.b. hybrid receivers. A typical application of the SL623 is shown in Fig. 10. The a.g.c. from this circuit is c.w. derived and if audio a.g.c. is required during s.s.b. reception an SL621 should be used.

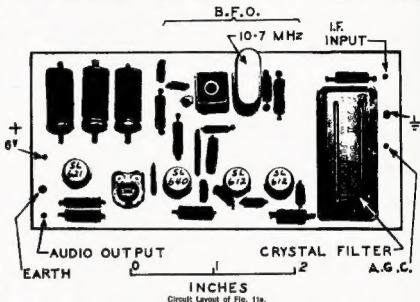
All the decoupling capacitors should go to one point and the positive supply should be decoupled. The circuit is as sensitive to s.s.b. as an SL640 but

requires 125 mV. r.m.s. of a.m. to activate the a.g.c.—thus greater i.f. gain may be necessary. Despite statements to the contrary in the provisional data sheet, this circuit functions to at least 30 MHz. and, with reduced performance, to over 120 MHz.

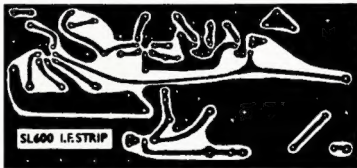
The resistor between pins 2 and 5 sets the value of carrier at which a.g.c. commences.

The b.f.o. should have a clean sine wave at about 100 mV. r.m.s.

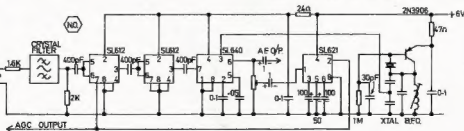
(Continued on Page 8)



Circuit Layout of Fig. 11a.



Printed Circuit Board for Fig. 11a.



**CIRCUIT OF 10.7 MHz I.F. STRIP SSB DETECTOR AND VOICE AGC. ILLUSTRATED IN PHOTOGRAPHS - FIG. 11a**

# LONG PATH GREAT CIRCLE MAP

L. H. VALE,\* VK5NO/1

■ The primary use of Great Circle or Azimuthal Projection Maps by Amateurs is to give instant indication of bearing for beam directing, interpreting ionospheric predictions, etc. They also indicate distance from the point of origin to any chosen point on the earth's surface.

These functions are limited to the short path or most direct route, whereas, in practice, quite a high proportion of DX contacts are made over long path circuits, i.e. the signals travel more than half way around the earth to arrive at their destination.

While it is easily possible to determine the direction of a long path signal by considering it to be 180° from the short path direction to the chosen point, and to calculate the distance by subtracting the short path distance from the earth's circumference, we decided that it should be worthwhile to make a map that includes long path routes of up to about 270° of the earth's surface

rather than be limited to the maximum of 180° available in a normal great circle map. In addition to making directions and distance instantly apparent at a glance, it was felt that such a map would give the user a better feel for the world as it is under long path propagation conditions.

Fortunately the construction of such a map is very easy and straight forward, if a little tedious, if it is constructed as an addition to a normal great circle map. The method described assumes that the earth is spherical and that signals travel in a straight line; these are reasonable and generally accepted assumptions.

Firstly, obtain a normal (short path) great circle map centred on your locality; the long path map given as an illustration is centred on the Adelaide area and would become rather inaccurate if used more than a few hundred miles from Adelaide. The diameter of the long path map will be about 50% greater than this short path map so it is necessary to start with a comparatively small short path map or be prepared to finish up with a monster.

Paste the map to the centre of a piece of white card of sufficient size.

Obtain a rule or straight edge at least as long as the diameter of the

short path map and make two marks on it separated by this diameter.

The extensions to the 180° map are now drawn by placing one mark on a chosen point on the 180° map, running the rule through the point of origin (the centre point) and marking the point where the second rule mark comes to on the card outside the 180° map.

It will be seen that each continent, except Asia, repeats itself outside the circumference of the 180° map.

Tracing around the coastlines of the continents is tedious and you may well agree with us that the outlines of the continents are sufficient, but it would probably be of some advantage, in view of the distorted shape of the land masses, to include national boundaries and the meridian grid as an aid to finding rarer countries or places more quickly.

Asia has to be cut through the middle; actually the map as drawn includes all areas workable on the long path and the distortion increases as does the distance from the centre point.

The map illustrated was constructed by the writer as a personal exercise and is about fifteen inches in diameter. It is used in conjunction with a Mercator's projection map and a short path great circle map, all of which are pinned on the wall. These maps enable an operator, if he is so inclined, to more easily "feel himself into" this globe as it appears on high frequency radio. The exercise has been well worthwhile, but is certainly not everyone's cup of tea.

## SL600 SERIES ICs

(Continued from Page 8)

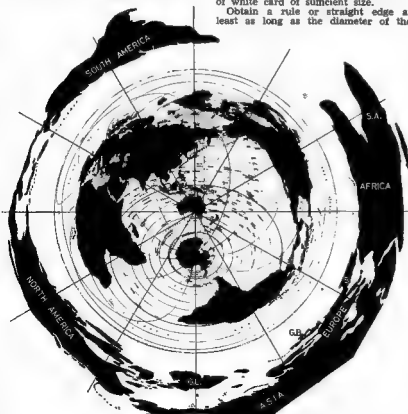
### OTHER DEVICES

The other members of the SL600 family are the SL620, 622 and 630. The SL630 is an audio amplifier with voltage controlled gain and up to 75 mW. (at 6v.) or 200 mW. (at 12v.) output. Used with the SL620, which is similar to the SL621, it forms an audio a.g.c. system. The SL622 is a self contained audio a.g.c. system with an additional sidetone output which is not a.g.c. controlled.

These circuits are intended to be compatible with the rest of the SL600 series, use the same power supplies and are, like them, in TOS packages.

This article has described how the Plessey SL600 series circuits can be used in h.f. transmitters, receivers and transceivers. It can be seen that, with the exception of oscillators and power amplifiers, h.f. transceivers can be built using SL600 devices for all functions. V.h.f. and u.h.f. sets can be built with SL600 devices in all but the r.f. and mixer stages. These devices make the design of a.m. and a.s.b. transceivers extremely simple and their setting up trivial.

\* C/o. Box 399, Fishwick, A.C.T., 2606.



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# BUILDING MODERN FILTERS

## PART ONE

By "CABBAGE-TREE NED"

• Many of us have been aware that new methods of filter design have evolved over the last 20 or 30 years, but understanding them has appeared to require more mathematics than most of us can use. This may be true, but VK3ZRO shows us in this whimsical series of articles that little more than simple arithmetic is necessary to apply some of the new methods to practical filter construction.

### INTRODUCTION

Cabbage-tree Ned, so Dal Stevens tells us, was the crack shot of the whole North Coast of New South Wales. He shot so straight he could shoot the eye out of a snail at 100 yards; and he shot so far that he had to salt his bullets so the game would keep until he could catch up with it! But the real feature about Cabbage-Tree was the structure suspended from the brim of his hat—a series of short lengths of string with a cork at the end of each, a Comb Structure as it were. In fact, of course, it was a filter with a stop-band for flies.

Here the facetious analogy with the Comb Filter must cease, because, although the flies represent a periodic series of pulses, what the electronic comb-filter does is pass such discrete frequency components and reject noise (which usually has a continuous spectrum or band of frequencies).

Now, "modern" or "synthesised" filters need be no more troublesome to calculate and build than the macroscopic device referred to above.

Let's clear the air by collecting thoughts on filters—then you may feel prepared to try out the two audio low-pass filters whose details appear below. Their performance is quite satisfying.

### FILTER TYPES

This much very briefly!

Filters can be classified in several ways:

- Frequency segment involved—A.F., r.f., or microwave.
- Circuit arrangement of elements—e.g. T, PI, or Lattice.
- Character of the elements—LC (lumped element) devices; coaxial (distributed element) filters; resonator filters (such as electromechanical and piezo-electric crystal); and active filters (containing an internal energy converting device such as a transistor).

The first three types are called passive filters—that is they contain no transistors or valves.

### FILTER APPLICATIONS

It was nearly 90 years after Faraday formulated the law of electro-magnetic induction (in 1831) that Campbell and Wagner in 1915 realised the use to which frequency sensitivity of inductive reactance could be put. And so was born an absolutely fundamental the first LC filter. Nowadays, these filters have become an indispensable tool of consumer, industrial and amateur electronic systems.

Any Amateur will recognise that some of the following are applications which could force themselves upon his attention:

- Pre-selector networks, at the input of sensitive receivers, to separate low-amplitude wanted signals from higher amplitude undesirable signals.
- I.f. filters. Used to provide the basic receiver selectivity.
- S.a.b. filters, which aim to suppress one sideband, and facilitate synchronism of the carrier frequency.
- Anti-jam filters, to improve radar-target detectability.
- Matched filters, for use in identification of radar targets, and in meteor-burst communications.
- Other radio uses: Broadbanding filters (between transmitter and narrow-band i.f. antenna), coupling networks, harmonic suppression.

### DOWN-TO-BUSINESS

To make the best choice of the available tools, we need to know two things:

- What we want to do;
- What each of the various methods can do.

Hence the following:

We must necessarily restrict exploration to the terms of item (c) of the third heading under Filter Types—namely character of elements. We choose (because of limitations on what a home-based Amateur can handle) to look at modern or synthesised LC filters, and briefly at the increasingly feasible active filters.

Active filters, by the way, you have played with when you built a Q-Multiplier, or an i.f. amplifier. With the aid of today's IC devices, active filters are one possible answer to the need, in a micro-miniature electronic world, for all circuit elements to be compatible in size. In the filter field, this means devising an inductorless filter and can be met by an electronic equivalent inductance provided the circuit used can be given satisfactory Q-factor and stability. Your reactance-modulator, for example, uses equivalent electronic inductance.

### PASSIVE LC FILTERS

These are constructed according to two different concepts:—

(a) Elementary sections of the constant-K type. These are based on image impedance notions, and are improved as to performance by cascading blocks (like stages of amplification) with the aid of an ingenious little fellow called M, to obtain a desired response.

(b) Synthesised or modern filters are not a combination of sections in the above sense. They are calculated as a whole, from mathematical equations whose graphs have been seen to have just the shape of filter response that we often need.

Both of these concepts use the traditional elements L and C, because their frequency-sensitivity will do what we need—offer a high impedance to (or reject) certain frequencies according to value and circuit arrangement.

Here we simply acknowledge that any filter does two jobs:—

- It acts as an energy-transfer device;
- It is selective as to frequencies passed.

### CREDITS FOR LC DEVICES

They dissipate negligible power, are stable in themselves, can be made to reasonable tolerances, generate little noise, and provide a d.c. path or total d.c. isolation as required. Finally, there is no offset voltage to worry about.

### MODERN (or SYNTHESISED) FILTERS

The whole purpose of this article is to illuminate the virtues of the modern filter. Being designed as a whole, it can provide a better filter than the traditional constant-K type.

The procedure is greatly simplified by tables, step-by-step design procedures, and/or design curves. It is true that the theory behind all this is still one for the specialist, but the results of his work can well be used by the technician or by the Amateur with a taste for a challenge.

Note, by the way, that the term "section" may still appear even when a filter is of the "modern" type, as when a group of physical elements is combined in a schematically separate network, each such group being designed as a whole. Sub-division into such "sections" may be dictated by, say, excess of insertion loss and the need for an in-between amplifier, or, in the case of a crystal filter, the need to eliminate spurious responses.

Two specimen designs which immediately follow are the fruits of "modern filter" concepts as outlined above. They are respectively:

(a) Maximally-flat, or Butterworth filter. This is used for its simplicity, and its excellence around near-zero frequencies. It has tolerably good amplitude response, and no ripples, but

\*VK3ZRO, A. G. Birch, 5 Harrison Street, Bendigo, Vic., 3580



not a very steep skirt. To a pulse type input, its response does have overshoot.

(b) **Elliptic.** This is an approximation to the ideal filter characteristic (vertical sides). It accepts that, in the interests of steeper skirts, some ripple may be tolerated within the pass-band. Further, it has in-built notches of added attenuation (above the wanted stop-band value) which can be useful for rejection of command signals, etc. The size of the ripple can be chosen, commonly less than 1 dB, and to some extent we can choose the notch frequencies as long as we are prepared to accept a slightly less favourable v.s.w.r. (Note: The Butterworth filter is actually a special case of a class in which there is ripple in the pass-band, but no attenuation-notches in the stop-band. This class of filter is known as **Chebyshev**. See Fig. 1.)

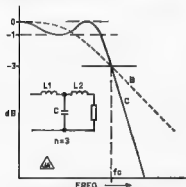


FIG 1 AMPLITUDE RESPONSES  
B-BUTTERWORTH C-CHEBYSHEV

## TWO SPECIMEN FILTERS

(Note: The relevant design data will be given in Part 2.)

### (A) Maximally-Flat (Butterworth) Design (Fig. 2)

Specifications: LP filter to have 3 dB cut-off at 3.5 kHz, attenuation about 30 dB/Octave, and work into a load of 800 ohms from a voltage-source. The coils should have a Q-factor in the region of 200. The temperature-coefficient to be satisfactory up to 50°C.

Solution:

- L1 = 42 mH. (226 turns).
- L2 = 37.7 mH. (215 turns).
- L3 = 8.42 mH. (102 turns).
- C1 = 0.128  $\mu$ F.
- C2 = 0.068  $\mu$ F.

Pot-Cores: 26/16 cores, of 3H1 material.

Wire: B & S. 28 gauge Lewcomer single-strand Cu (special enamel, easily removed), chosen to give nearly-filled winding space on the 26/16 plastic bobbins.

Actual Q-factors were not less than 150, which was still acceptable.

Air-gap in the pot-core centre-post: as hand-ground = 0.008 in.

Performance: Very slight hump near roll-off point, and the expected rounding of voltage-response down near the 40 dB attenuation level at 9.2 kHz.

Application: To be used in part of the Zone translator set-up.

### (B) Elliptic Filter (Fig. 3)

Specifications: LP filter to cut-off at 3 kHz, work between source and load both of 800 ohms, provide minimum attenuation in the stop-band of 50 dB for all frequencies above 4 kHz. Use the minimum number of inductors (which is two) for the obvious choice of possible circuit arrangements of T-input or Pi-input. (See Part 3 for details.)

Solution: Use parallel-resonant series arms, and simple-C shunt-arms.

We obtain:

- C1 = 0.0138  $\mu$ F.—shunt C.
- C2 = 0.0015  $\mu$ F.
- C3 = 0.0187  $\mu$ F.—shunt C.
- C4 = 0.00425  $\mu$ F.
- C5 = 0.0117  $\mu$ F.—shunt C.
- L2 = 34.9 mH. paralleled with C3—series arm.
- L4 = 27.9 mH. paralleled with C4—series arm.

Performance: As shown in Fig. 4.

## EXPLANATORY COMMENTS

(a) Inductors were made the hard way, to get the feel and prove a point.

(b) Both are made with 26/16 pot-cores (mess-produced, hence cheapest; also suitable for a wide range of L-values). Being auto-filters, no attempt was made to maximise the Q-factor.

(c) The air-gap was ground by hand with a home-made tool, micrometer, and some 600-grit silicon carbide (amateur gemstone shops).

(d) Coils were hand-wound and checked for value on an H-P vector impedance meter. No trimming was needed (before cementing the core-halves) to be within 1% of designed values of L.

(e) The easier way, which the writer will follow in future, is to buy pre-gapped P-cores with slug-adjustor capable of  $\pm 10\%$  variation of L, for a slightly higher cost (70c against 55c).

## ACTIVE FILTERS

One way of achieving an inductorless filter is to use only RC elements, but because they have high insertion loss or pass-band attenuation, no one uses them.

Active filters, on the other hand, can have insertion-gain. They lend themselves to modern micro-miniature methods, and make extensive use of the

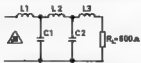


FIG 2 BUTTERWORTH—30 dB/OCT,  
n=5

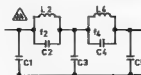


FIG 3 ELLIPTIC (RIPPLE) FILTER,  
as given n=5

very easily handled operational amplifiers, such as the 741, or 739 (a dual-in-line), the 715 (for unity gain), or the 725 (for cases where gain is positively useful).

They are most useful at low frequencies (below 1 MHz), where simple solid state devices can have appreciable gain.

Practical active filter schemes (see Dannecker, et al) are based on applications of IC technology with specialised design techniques.

In short, active filters do overcome the limitations of passive RC filters, but are still (at present) susceptible to sensitivity problems, particularly of Q-factor with respect to gain.

The answer for the Amateur will probably be only in handling experience and much thought. Applications Notes by various manufacturers should help original effort greatly. Some considerable help will also be gained with the aid of a Table and Chart method of calculating component values published by other authors.

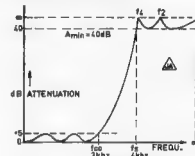


FIG 4  
RESPONSE OF  
FIGURE 3 FILTER

## BACKGROUND

The Filter Tables to follow in Parts 2 and 3 can be compiled in several ways, just to satisfy your curiosity.

### (a) The Grass-Roots Method

Kirchhoff analysis will give us the ratio of  $V_{OUT}/V_{IN}$  in terms of the L and C elements of a given order of filter. Then we look up the corresponding Butterworth (say) Polynomial, and simply compare coefficients to evaluate the L and C.

For a 3rd order Butterworth (voltage-source), the Kirchhoff expression is

$$F(s) = \frac{1}{s^3 + \frac{L_1 L_2 C}{R} s^2 + \frac{L_1 C}{R} s + \frac{(L_1 + L_2)}{R} + 1}$$

and the Butterworth expression that corresponds is

$$F(s) = \frac{1}{s^3 + 2s^2 + 2s + 1}$$

In another three lines of simple arithmetic, we find that the L1, L2 and C are respectively 0.238 H., 0.0795 H., and 0.212 F. for R = 1 ohm and f = 1 Hz. (1.5 H., 0.5 H., and 1.33 F. when frequency in radians/sec.)

The method becomes tedious (to say the least) for anything above 5th order (5-section) filters.

(Continued on Page 13)

# T.V. TUNER SOLID STATE CONVERSION

BY THE TECHNICAL EDITOR

● A letter received recently from Jim Fricke, VK1JF, describes how he has converted a Philips AT7580 valve-type 16-channel t.v. tuner to use transistors instead of valves.

The accompanying circuit diagrams show the tuner before and after modification. The 8CW7 cascode r.f. ampli-

fier was replaced by two 2N5485 FETs (Q1, Q2), the mixer (6BL8 pentode) by another 2N5485 (Q3), and the oscillator (6BL8 triode) by a BF115 bi-polar transistor (Q4). Initially a FET was tried as the oscillator also, but in Jim's words, "After eight hours of experimenting the results were still disappointing."

Some additional components were necessary, particularly for the oscillator,

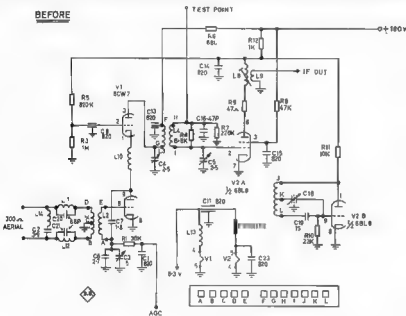
but the fact that only four of the original resistors (R3, R5, R6 and R12) needed to be changed shows rather clearly the similarity in characteristic between FETs and valves (except for their radically different power requirements).

Although 9 volt supply is shown, Jim claims the tuner operated quite well with only 6 volts. The lower channel (1, 2 and 3) oscillator coils may need a few extra turns, and the old channel 1 coils will in any case need extra turns on all windings if required to cover channel 6. The 47 ohm resistor Rx in the r.f. drain circuit was found necessary to prevent oscillation in Q2. The transistors were all mounted above the valve sockets and soldered to the appropriate contacts. R13, R14, C24, C25 and C26 were also mounted on top of the tuner.

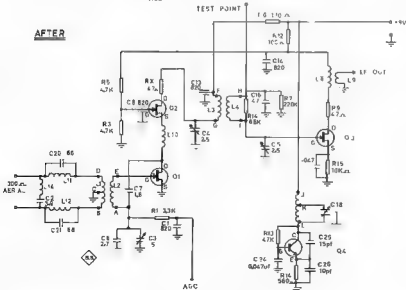
A possible application, not suggested in the original letter, could be to use the tuner as a multi-band v.h.f. converter with extended oscillator tuning range if necessary by fitment of an added variable capacitor to the fine tuning. Frequency stability may not be impressive, but if a suitable i.f. channel in the 31-36 MHz range could be provided, the 6 and 2 metre bands could be covered readily on the existing channel 1 and channel 5 coils respectively.



BEFORE



AFTER



## MODERN FILTERS

(Continued from Page 12)

### (b) The Elegant Method

The equation quoted by R. Dannecker for the low-pass filter in his Phase-Lock Loop articles ("A.R.", Feb. 1972) is a staging-point in pole-zero methods, a particularly useful sort of compactness. For the engineer does not, on the whole, indulge in pole-zero patterns for the sake of it. He believes in the conservation of energy, and the simplest solution of a problem.

The familiar gain/frequency and phase/frequency curves of an amplifier or filter give more detail than we often need. Certain critical frequencies called break points (and a constant multiplier) are all that is necessary.

Break points are points where the skirts of a filter response change slope suddenly, and in mathematical language are related to points known as poles and zeros. They give rise to a plot called a pole-zero pattern which is the graphical heart of S-plane design, only the results of which you will be using via the Tables of Parts 2 and 3.

(Continued on Page 16)

# MORE ON MORSE KEYS

## ONE MORE DROP OF HOME-BREW

T. LAIDLER,\* VK5TL

About 35 years ago and under slightly different circumstances, I made the key I still use.

Lacking access to the facilities available to VK3AXU, the method adopted was different, in that I made some wooden patterns, arranged for the castings to be made in the city (500 odd road miles away) and spent some time with a file on the castings made. The cost (in those days) was not considered excessive at eight shillings for two sets. A set of ignition contacts cost about 7/6 (76 cents).

A local garage was able to supply what was termed a "standard taper" pin and made the necessary tapered hole through the bar and uprights of the "U" section for a small charge. The pin is held in by a screw through the appropriate place in the key bar. (This pin tapers from 1/4" to 3/16" over a length of 2".)

The front contacts are located 1-5/8" from the front end of the key bar and the rest of the fittings are much as outlined by VK3AXU, except that screws are fitted into the right hand sides of the centre and front sections to permit wiring on the sides. This is just convenience in manufacture.

\* 18 Albion Avenue, Glandore, S.A., 5037.

For anyone with a slight knowledge of woodwork, patterns can be made in a manner to those outlined below; wood being easier to work than metal. Mine were given a good coat of shellac before sending to the foundry, this was recommended by a patternmaker. (Patternmakers are highly skilled woodworkers.)

If the key bar and "U" sections are cast, the other pieces for front and back blocks can be cut from the appropriate sized metal, but I had mine cast and thus gave myself more file work.

The regular Morse key was usually fitted with platinum in the contacts, but we poorer mortals, without access to platinum, seem to get by with automobile contacts which are probably tungsten. Bearing this in mind, give them occasional cleaning and, while on the job, take the pin out and put a smear of oil on the moving parts of the pin—it helps.

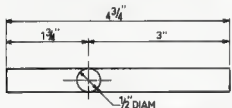
When setting up spring tension, do not make it any heavier than necessary to return the key bar to normal position. This eases wrist pressure to overcome the spring when pressing down.

For ease of operation, I pass on what was part of my Morse instruction in days gone by—I won't say how many:

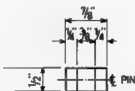
"Keep the key bar, hand, wrist and fore-arm in a straight line, move from the wrist and keep as many finger ends on top of the key knob as possible." Usually two fingers will go on, but some wider knobs might take three. The thumb to the side, of course.

My patterns were made from several small pieces of wood nailed together. Small pieces of dowel could be used to provide the wide section of the key bar.

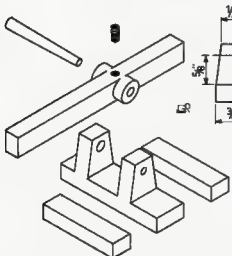
[Details of mounting given by VK-3AXU in the article "A Drop of Home Brew," which appeared in Feb. 1972 issue can be used with a little modification for this unit. Assume all castings are of brass.—Tech. Ed.]



KEY BAR



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## NEWCOMER'S NOTEBOOK

With Rodney Champness,\* VK3UG

### "YOUR RADIO REFERENCE LIBRARY"

"I don't need a reference library. I passed the theory exam. (just) and I intend to operate a commercially made rig and aerial system. Just quietly, I don't think I should have had to pass a theory exam. After all, I'll be operating commercial equipment and everyone knows that commercial gear is perfect, not like this shocking homebrew stuff. I'll send the gear away for service or con one of the local experimenter types to fix it for me. That reminds me, I must get Joe Blow around to solder up that wire on the rotator."

The learned thoughts of an avid appliance operator "Ham"??? Look up a dictionary to see what "Ham" means — you may get a surprise. The thoughts above seem to me to indicate the attitude of a growing number of Amateurs — a rather narrow selfish attitude, not destined to help Amateur Radio in the long term. Don't get me wrong, I have nothing against Amateurs operating commercial apparatus, only against those who know nothing about the internals of their rigs; those too frightened to open the lid of their set in case it goes "boo" at them. That type of chap won't read this article in any case.

The point I want to get across is this — that to be a competent Amateur in the true sense of the word, a working knowledge of your equipment is essential. To help you gain this knowledge a small reference library is essential.

What kind of books are necessary for this reference library? Two books which cover the wide spectrum of Amateur Radio in its many facets are "Radio Communication Handbook" by R.S.G.B., and "The Radio Amateur's Handbook" from A.R.R.L. Naturally

enough you will have a leaning towards some particular aspect of Amateur Radio which will mean specialised books are desirable.

If you are just starting, "Understanding Amateur Radio" A.R.R.L. as a general text is quite good. To prepare you for examinations the N.Z.A.R.T. publication "Questions and Answers" is quite helpful — as long as it is understood that a difference exists between New Zealand Amateur examinations and ours. A small but good book on aerials is "S-1 Signals". This book has quite a few simple inexpensive aerials to suit a light weight wallet. I have been told that this book is now out of print, but I notice that most of these

aerials are included in "Beam Antenna Handbook" (4th), by William Orr.

If your main interest is in v.h.f. the "V.h.f./U.H.F. Manual" by R.S.G.B., or "Radio Amateur V.H.F. Manual" (11th) by A.R.R.L. can be recommended. I do prefer the British texts as the power levels and financial levels are similar to ours. All the above books are readily available. Write away for lists and you will find several other books of interest for your particular activity.

The knowledge you gain from your reference library will help you to establish and operate your station more conveniently, effectively and efficiently, thus giving you considerable satisfaction. ●

## WIRELESS INSTITUTE OF AUSTRALIA YOUTH RADIO CLUBS SCHEME

### A Special "A.R." Report on the Y.R.C.S. Conference

The Y.R.C.S. Conference held in Melbourne over the week-end of 2nd and 3rd September laid special stress upon the basic reasons for the existence of the Y.R.C.S. — namely, the best interests of youth. A Y.R.C.S. Constitution was negotiated for submission to the Federal Council for their acceptance.

The Conference was hosted by the W.I.A. Victorian Division and Mr. John Batrick, VK3OR, was elected by the delegates as Chairman in the unavoidable absence of the Federal President, Mr. Michael J. Owen, VK3KI. Later in the evening, Dr. David Wardlaw, VK3ADW, was elected to the Chair when Mr. J. Batrick left with regret on another commitment.

The delegates were the Federal Y.R.C.S. Co-ordinator, Rev. R. G. (Bob) Guthrie, of South Australia; the Federal Y.R.C.S. Secretary, Mr. J. Flynn; State Y.R.C.S. Supervisors: Mr. D. S. Jeanes, VK2BSJ, of New South Wales; Mr. R. A. Everingham, VK4EV, of Queensland; and Mr. A. M. Dunn, VK5FD, of South Australia; Mr. W. L. Tremewen, VK3ZCI, the Y.R.C.S. Correspondence Section Supervisor; Mr. K. McLachlan, VK3ZDK, State Supervisor of Y.R.S. of Victoria, with helpers Mr.

Keith Nicholls, VK3ANI, and Dr. Bob Cailander, VK3AQ, who demonstrated the Y.R.S. b.f.o. unit project advertised elsewhere in this issue. Comments in writing from the unavoidably absent VK6 and VK7 State Y.R.C.S. Supervisors were also taken into consideration.

This meeting of the Y.R.C.S. Council, as it is to be known under the new Constitution, clarified a number of long outstanding questions including the name of the scheme as "The Wireless Institute of Australia, Youth Radio Clubs Scheme" (abbreviated Y.R.C.S.), the supply of authorised notes to be prepared by the Y.R.S. of Victoria for distribution through the Executive office and the appointment of a committee to revise, integrate and standardise Y.R.C.S. material.

Duties of the functionaries and the necessity for constant communication and co-ordination received attention in addition to other diverse matters such as certificates, Y.R.C.S. Council meetings each three years or lesser period, copyright, "Zero Best" and general publicity material.

☆

## MODERN FILTERS

(Continued from Page 13)

The tools for calculation or design of filters and tuned amplifiers grow most easily out of these pole-zero patterns (and the multiplier). The Filter Tables to follow are based on extensions of these ideas.

[Editorial Note: The principles of S-plane analysis and synthesis are not necessarily beyond the scope of this series. Readers who wish to study the subject are referred to the bibliography which will follow Part 3. In addition, a very readable introduction to S-plane concepts may be found in Holbrook, "Laplace Transforms for Electronic Engineers" (Pergamon, 1966), particularly chapters 1 and 8.] ●

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# Commercial Kinks

With Ron Fleher,\* VK3OM

This month, Part Three of the FT200, some modifications on the Marconi RI155 receiver, but first off, some data on carphones. Following my plea for information on these, Peter Campbell, VK2AJX, answered my prayer and how! I can now supply circuits for the following A.W.A. units. Low band: MR10C/20A, MR15A and MRT25A; high band: MR10C/20A, MR20B, MR15A, MR6A, MRT25A, MR3A, MR10B. If you would like a copy of any of these, drop me a note with details of your requirements, plus an a.s.e.

Peter also forwarded conversion information on A.W.A. carphones and this will be published over the next two issues.

## CONVERSION OF A.W.A. CARPHONES

High band MR10B to 146 MHz. Transmitter: increase IC14 to 82 pF, IC12 to 47 pF, IC31 to 15 pF. Add 4.7 pF across the secondary of IT2 pins 2 and 3. Add 2.2 pF across both primary and secondary of IT3. Close up IL4 and IT6A as required. Receiver: Increase C16 and C18 to 33 pF, C51 to 22 pF. Rewind both primary and secondary of T9 with 6 turns.

High band MR10C and MR20A to 146 MHz. Transmitter: T8 increase C92 to 22 pF, C98 to 33 pF. Add 2.2 pF across L9. Close up L11, L12 and L16 as required. Receiver: Add 1.8 pF across L1. Add 1.8 pF across L5. Increase C54 to 15 pF, increase C6 and C7 to 33 pF, C58 to 22 pF.

High band MR20B to 146 MHz. Transmitter: Increase C117 to 39 pF, C118 to 22 pF. Add 2.2 pF across L9. Close up L11. Receiver: Add 1.8 pF across L1, L3 and L6. Increase C66 to 47 pF, add 4.7 pF across primary of TR2 and secondary of TR1.

High band MR3A to 146 MHz. See October 1965 "Amateur Radio" or contact Commercial Kinks for a copy of the details. More carphone conversion details next month.

## THE FT200, PART THREE

Here is the last part of the service data on the FT200 as supplied by Mr. Fred Bail, of Bail Electronic Services.

Symptom: No drive on "Tune". No side tone on c.w. position, but meter kicks up with speech on s.a.b. This fault is sometimes of an intermittent nature, but it is normal for the drive on "Tune" to diminish slightly if the set, and thus the audio oscillator, becomes very hot. Probable cause: Failure of the audio tune-up oscillator. Cure: Re-adjust the oscillator feedback preset pot. VR504. A slight adjustment of the output preset pot. is sometimes sufficient. Both these controls are mounted on the oscillator printed circuit board under the chassis. If the above

adjustments are not effective, check other components and voltages on the board. Until the fault is rectified, the transmitter can be tuned up in the a.m. position. The carrier insertion can be adjusted with a.m. carrier level pot. at the rear of the chassis.

Symptom: Transmitter self oscillation on 21 MHz. band only. This shows up as constant high lc meter reading at no drive condition. Probable cause: Misadjustment of L22 trap. Cure: Adjust as per the instruction book. If the transmitter self-oscillation still persists, slightly back-off the L22 adjustment until the oscillation just ceases.

Symptom: Transmitter self oscillation. High lc meter reading at no drive condition. Ic reading varies with grid and plate tuning. Probable cause: P.a. neutralisation out of adjustment. Defective 12BY7 driver valve. Excessive voltage on 12BY7 driver valve. Cure: Connect the transmitter to a load, preferably to a 50/75 ohm dummy antenna. First tune the transmitter on 21.3 MHz. with an lc meter reading of about 100 to 150 mA. Adjust the p.a. neutralising condenser TC-3. Adjust TC-3 so that lc dip at p.a. resonance coincides with maximum r.f. output. Check 12BY7 driver valve. Try a replacement. Check that the 300v. line in the FP200 is not reading high. If it is, modify the 300v. filter section to a choke input type.

Although that finishes the service data on FT200s, it is by no means the end of the FT200 in Commercial Kinks. I will be back next month with plenty of ideas for you to try out on your rig. Don't forget to tell me of any problems or modifications relating to the FT200.

## THE RI155 AND 160 METRES

My thanks to Mr. R. G. Edmeades for the following notes on the RI155 receiver.

"After suffering from QRM when using the broadcast band as a tunable i.f., it was decided to adjust the broadcast band of the 1155 to include the 160 metre band. Here is how it was done.

"Turn the r.f. coil slug out as far as it will go. Turn out the two No. 3 coil slugs until the tops are just below the edge of the coil box. These are the 1st, 4th in the row nearest the front. Turn out the No. 3 trimmers two turns. Set the pointer to 628 on the dial, then tune oscillator slug (1st on the left)

until the set tunes to 730 kHz. Now peak the mixer coil slug (4th from the left). Turn the dial pointer to 1325 and turn the oscillator trimmer until 1600 kHz. is heard. Peak the mixer and screw out the r.f. trimmer until it has no further effect.

"This is the limit of adjustment and the set now tunes from 700 to 1900 kHz. This provides a tuning range of 1600 to 1900 kHz. for use with converters, giving very little chance of QRM from break-through. A new paper scale can be pasted over the old broadcast calibrations."

In a later thought Mr. Edmeades says that some improvement can be achieved by cutting off half of the r.f. coil slug. To do this, remove two screws and the metal cover. Mark the top of the pot, so that it can be replaced as is. Remove the long clamp screws and lift off, unscrew the slug and cut half of it off. You will now be able to peak the trimmer at 1600 kHz.

Thanks Mr. Edmeades. I am sure this will be most useful to all 1155 owners. If you want more data on 1155s, consult the September 1966 issue of "Amateur Radio," or contact Commercial Kinks for copies of this.

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# Simple Linear Traps

## FOR TRIBAND BEAMS AND VERTICALS

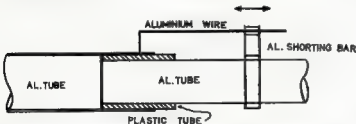
J. HUMPHREYS,\* VK3ANH

● These traps have been used in a G4ZU X-beam. They have proven to be light, easy to construct and tune, strong, and effective in operation.

The trap capacitors consist of aluminium tubing of different diameters separated by plastic tubing as a dielectric. The inductors are short, straight lengths of aluminium wire connected gamma-match fashion across the capacitors. A sliding shorting bar between the wire and the tubing tunes the traps and the antenna.

"The Antenna Book" (1970) describes a tubular capacitor formed from short pieces of tubing which are then built into the antenna. A simpler method is to make the 10 metre dipole from 1½" tubing. Into the ends of this go 4" lengths of 1" grey plastic conduit. Aluminium tubing, ½" diameter, is wrapped with plastic tape to give a snug fit when inserted into the conduit. It extends the length to a half wave at 15 metres. For the next capacitor, 5" of ½" conduit are used. The length is made up to a 20 metre half wave with 1" and ½" aluminium. These dimensions give capacitors of about 80 pF. at the ends of the 10 and 15 metre dipoles.

### THE LINEAR TRAP



For the inductances, referring to a table of transmission lines, aluminium wire (e.g. 14 a.w.g.) spaced 2½" from the tubing will form a line with a characteristic impedance approximately 400 ohms. The inductive reactance of a length of shorted line is given by:

$$X_L \text{ (ohms)} = Z_0 \tan \phi$$

where  $Z_0$  is the characteristic impedance and  $\phi$  is the length of the line in electrical degrees.

From this, it can be found that lengths of something less than two feet will give the necessary inductance to resonate with the capacitors on 10 and 15 metres. In my case, after tuning, the lengths were 15" on 10 metres and 20" on 15.

Worm screw hose clamps were used to join the various tubings and to hold the inner end of each inductance. Shorting bars were bent up from aluminium sheet and held with cadmium plated screws. Each trap then looks something like the diagram.

Tuning the antenna for a.w.r., gain or F/B ratio is a breeze. About 2" movement of the shorting bar will tune right through each band. Theory suggests that the 10 metre section be tuned first, but I found no indication that the tuning of one band affected the others. One point; believing that, like most traps, these would require the antenna to be shortened somewhat, I made the 10 metre dipole 14 feet, the 15 metre section 19 feet and the overall length for 20 metres 28 feet. When I came to tune the system on 20 by adjusting the length of the outermost section, I found it necessary to increase the length to a full 34 feet. This suggests that the 10 and 15 metre sections could have been made full size. However, their lengths are not critical because tuning the traps will compensate for any error in this regard.

[Careful checking indicates theoretical stub lengths of about 28" and 18", rather than 20" and 15". It appears that the discrepancy was compensated

for by the re-adjustment of the shorter elements which were found necessary. —Tech. Ed.]

In passing, I can recommend the G4ZU X-beam for home-brew tribanding. Because of its shape, the effective spacing on all bands is the same (in wavelengths) and, using these traps, it will match nicely into a single co-ax. feed line. ●



## Letters to the Editor

Any opinion expressed under this heading is the individual opinion of the writer and does not necessarily coincide with that of the Publishers.

Editor "A.R.", Dear Sir,

I refer to QSP in the June publication of "Amateur Radio".

For some months I have read and listened to various attacks on local manufacture of Ham Equipment. I have been content to sit, like a wise monkey, however, your June QSP prompted me to put pen to paper.

I am the owner of a locally produced transceiver of excellent capabilities. During my period of ownership of one of these transceivers, I have heard at least six similar units operating in N.S.W. and two in Victoria. I still operate my unit, which sold at \$88.00 (your advertising records and printing blocks will verify this) as my original enquiries to the manufacturer were made after reading large prominently displayed adverts in our journal "Amateur Radio". Does history repeat itself?

The June edition of "Amateur Radio" gives prominence to QSP which is conspicuous by its inactivity, at the same time displaying a highly paid advert (not so prominent) from another local manufacturer.

One wonders whose face is red! And will this letter receive equal prominence.

—R. EGAN, VK3ARE.  
W.I.A. member.

P.S.—I have been a full member since 1946, one would like to keep the records straight.

The locally produced transceiver referred to was advertised in 1963 at a price then of £346/10/8. No trace can be found of any QSP advertisement of this item, but a reference can be found to a price on page 19 of September 1971 "A.R.". Readers should also refer to (a) Currently advertised prices of imported transceivers as read with the final paragraphs of Dr Godding's QSP in June 1972 "A.R.", and (b) To a Customs Import Duties article on page 11 of September 1971 "A.R."—Ed.]

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A.R. 16/72

# CONTESTS

With Peter Brown,\* VK4PJ

## REMEMBRANCE DAY CONTEST, 1972

Well the 1972 R.D. Contest is over and a couple of days later there was a pile of logs waiting for me. A busy time ahead of me. I was asked if repeater contacts were permitted. My answer was "Yes, but I wish that I had put the number of the contest in my feelings are that where no individual gains, any of the usual means of radio communication are acceptable. In the R.D. a Division may gain. In the R.D. a Division may gain. There is no reason why r.t.t.y. and slow scan cannot be used also. Unless you think otherwise.

Before we get straight up and waste efforts, let us see what the results show. Many dedicated Amateurs have spent a lot of time devising formulae and rules to make the R.D. Contest enjoyable and fair to all, but it all gets back to you.

Again read Federal Vice-President David's QRP August "Amateur Radio". Please express yourself to your Federal Councillor, preferably, or to me and I will try and make contacts to suit all. These minor changes are few.

Overall conditions seemed pretty good for the contest and did you note the high log numbers. I was asked if I would like to not fully participate, thus missing a few of my usuals, but I did get some comments.

I did not think that I would see the day when congestion on the c.w. section would send me into the phone band. "Fancy a pile up on 10 metres". (There were pile ups on 10 metres.) "Of a 100 contest, this was the best yet."

The ZL/ZM boys seemed to be enjoying the contest.

What about a bonus to get signals on 100 and 11 metres next year?

As a final comment, I always feel sorry for the contest, especially for those who are whose contest logs fail to reach me, but there is nothing anybody can do about this particularly where the closing date has passed and results have been published. How can this situation be avoided? Certified mail by the sender perhaps?

## ROSS HULL MEMORIAL VHF-UHF CONTEST, 1972-73

The major change in this year's contest is from 100 to 10 M.T. There is little need for me to elaborate on the advantages with "Daylight Saving" coming to some States. Quite a few of us will use it to help.

The two-hour elapsed time between contacts with the same station on the same band has been introduced to permit two contacts per calendar day. We will use it to help.

There is no looking for c.w. as in the R.D. Contest because as a v.h.f./u.h.f. contest the limited time will be used to help. The rules restricting the use of repeaters has not been altered because this is an individual effort. Contest. If we do not get a better return from last year's contest sections (a), (b) and (d) in this contest, perhaps these should be eliminated the year after.

You will see you have five weeks to get your entry into my hands. After 23rd February I will be too busy getting results to April "Amateur Radio" to open other logs. Don't put off writing your log until it will be later than you thought. You will note there is a variation in certificate issue. Certificates may only enter the contest under the name of the station. I hope that I can put on a signal or two myself this year and will look forward to saying "good day" to you.

## JOHN MOYLE MEMORIAL NATIONAL FIELD DAY CONTEST, 1973

I am sure we can make our next Field Day Contest the best yet. The ZL/ZMs have their Field Day on that week-end also and although they have a few limitations compared with our contest about which I will be making next month, there should be a lot of activity for both of us. I have written to Jack ZL3DCK on a common Field Day and perhaps one year we can have common rules.

In our next Field Day Contest I would like to define more clearly the "Field" station for two reasons: One being to stop the "field" (Continued on Page 22)

# Ross Hull Memorial VHF-UHF Contest, 1972-73 Rules

The Federal Contest Committee of the Wireless Institute of Australia invites all Australian and Overseas Amateurs and Short Wave Listeners to participate in this annual contest which is held to perpetuate the memory of Ross Hull whose interest in v.h.f./u.h.f. did much to advance the art.

A Perpetual Trophy is awarded annually for competition between members of the W.I.A. in Australia and its Territories and is inscribed with the name and life work of the man whom it honours.

The name of the winning member of the W.I.A. each year is also inscribed on the Trophy. In addition, this member will receive a suitably inscribed certificate.

Objects. Australian Amateurs will endeavour to contact as many other Amateurs as possible under the following conditions.

Date of Contest. From 1401 hours G.M.T. 8th December, 1972 (1001 hours E.A.S.T., 8th Dec) to 1400 hours G.M.T., 1st January, 1973 (2400 hours E.A.S.T., 22nd Jan.)

Duration. Any seven calendar days (local) within the dates mentioned above, not necessarily consecutive. These periods are to be at the operator's convenience. A calendar day is from 1401 hours G.M.T. to 1400 hours G.M.T. (1001 hours E.A.S.T. to 2400 hours E.A.S.T.)

## RULES

1. There are two divisions, one of 48 hours duration and one for seven days. In the seven-day division, the following sections apply:

- (a) Transmitting, open.
- (b) Transmitting, phone.
- (c) Transmitting, c.w.
- (d) Receiving, open.

In the 48 hours division the best score over any 48 hours period is the winner.

2. Any Australian or Overseas Amateur operating fixed, mobile or portable may enter.

3. All Amateur v.h.f./u.h.f. bands may be used but cross-band contacts are not acceptable. Only single frequency operating at any one time is permitted. Cross mode contacts are permitted.

4. Amateurs may enter for any one of the sections. The seven-day winner is not eligible for the 48-hour award.

Two contacts per band per day are permitted provided that two hours elapses from the previous contact with that station on that band.

5. A multi-operator station will not count, only one may operate a station at any one time and submit a log for his own operation.

6. Entrants must operate within the terms of their licence.

7. The exchange of serial numbers consisting of RS or RST report plus three figures commencing with 001 shall be proof of contact.

8. Entries should be set out, on quarto sheets using one side of the paper only, and must be forwarded to reach the W.I.A. Federal Contest Manager, G.P.O. Box 638, Brisbane, Qld., 4001, in time for the last opening of logs on 23rd February, 1973. Envelopes should be clearly marked "Ross Hull Contest". Early logs will be appreciated.

9. Scoring will be based on the attached table and the table of distances published in November 1971 "Amateur Radio". Approximate distances are to be shown in the log. Operation via repeaters or translators is not permitted.

10. Logs should be as set out in the example and must carry a front sheet showing the following information:

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Section \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ Claimed T-day score \_\_\_\_\_  
Operating dates \_\_\_\_\_  
Highest 48-hour score \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby certify that I have operated in accordance with the Rules and spirit of the Contest

## Comments.

13. All times are to be logged in G.M.T.

13. Certificates may be awarded to the winners of each section of each call area.

Certificates will be awarded subject to there being at least three other eligible entries in that call area and section. Certificates will be awarded to contestants who break any Australian v.h.f./u.h.f. band records.

The VK contestant who returns the highest score in the transmitting section and who is a financial member of the W.I.A., will have his name inscribed on the trophy which will be held by his Division for the prescribed period. A certificate will be awarded to the operator with the highest 48-hour score.

## RECEIVING SECTION

1. Only short wave listeners may enter for this section.

2. Contest times and logging of stations shall be as for the transmitting section except that there will be no 48-hour division.

3. Logs must show the call sign of the calling station, the serial number given and only the call sign of the other station. Scoring will be as for transmitting stations.

4. Any scoring contacts may be logged. There is no limit to the number of times that a station may be logged provided that they are scoring contacts, i.e. there are serial numbers.

5. The logs for any seven calendar days will be submitted and the winner of the section will be the highest scorer.

6. Certificates will be awarded to the highest scorer in the contest provided that there are at least three other eligible entrants.

7. Any scoring contacts may be logged in the club station with the highest seven-day score provided that there are at least three eligible club entrants.

## GENERAL

It is preferable that complete logs be submitted as an aid in checking, but contestants must show their best seven days or 48 hours.

## SCORING TABLE

Distance		120 Mts.	140 Mts.	160 Mts.	180 Mts.	200 Mts.
Up to 25 miles	1	1	2	3	4	5
26 to 30	1	1	2	3	4	5
31 to 40	1	1	2	3	4	5
41 to 100	10	10	15	25	30	40
101 to 300	25	15	30	150	180	280
301 to 500	20	25	10	250	300	400
501 to 1000	15	15	20	300	350	450
1001 to 1500	15	100	250	350	400	500
1501 to 2500	28	125	300	450	500	600
2501 to 3500	50	300	500	550	600	650
3501 to 5000	50	300	500	550	600	650
5001 to 10000	100	600	500	550	600	650

## PROJECT AUSTRALIS

Unfortunately, a serious component failure in the 43.1 MHz beacon transmitter delayed delivery to Amstat. Notwithstanding the statement on page 2 of August "A.R." the transmitter has not yet left Australia. Long discussions on the problem have been held with Amstat, and it has been agreed to replace an offending PFT with a different type. It is hoped that this will maintain the good percentage figures of the transmitter, while still giving the unit the reliability needed for the AO-C Satellite. It is hoped to get the transmitter to Amstat in time to have it included on AO-C.

Amstat have advised that AO-C will begin EFT radio frequency interference tests with the Nimbus-2 Satellite on 2nd October, and that it will then be shipped to California for a long series of pre-launch tests on 15th October. The launch date has not yet been completely finalised.

Amstat have advised that the AO-C absolute receiver sensitivity is minus 100 dBm, for maximum output of the 10 metre transmitter. This is equivalent to 0.5 microvolts. To a ground station this is equivalent to 160w.e.r.p. The maximum output of the flight transmitter on AO-C is 1.5w. Assuming a 1w. input and a 1.5w. output, the receiver sensitivity is 1 microvolt. As the average sensitivity of a commercial receiver will be 100 microvolts, a pre-amplifier WILL be needed. A suitable pre-amplifier will be published in November "A.R." as will a circuit for a 40 metre converter. Both of these will be available in kit form.

The prototype 435 MHz. repeater has so far been to VK6 and VK3 on its tour around the country. It next goes to VK3, then VK3 and VK7.

The standard orbit tracking data will be published with October "A.R." Data will appear for each State capital. If you know of any district more than 100 miles from a State capital which would be interested in getting a copy of the standard orbit data, please let us know, so that it can be prepared and posted out in advance of the AO-C launch.

### NOT FREE

AO-C is now due to be launched October 15 or 16 on IFOS-6 or IFOS-D (REPEATER OPERATORS PLEASE NOTE)

## INTRUDER WATCH

With Alf Chandler, VK3LC

I have had some complaints that run something like this:

"How about telling us when a station is removed from our bands because of intruder Watch vigilance?" This is very difficult because the authorities do not tell us when such is the case.

Another complaint is: "We report these intruder signals but nothing seems to be done about them." Again, this is very difficult because the authorities will take no action unless they get many reports of the same station being heard using various methods. Then they will monitor the frequency in question, and if satisfied that it is a legitimate intruder causing harmful interference, they will take action and send a diplomatic complaint to the Administration concerned.

Thus it is necessary for as many members to report intruders as possible. Without your reports, nothing can be done. If you are not the most active and informed, VK3 and VK4 are only slightly interested as is VK7, VK5 and VK6. Amateurs appear to have no interest in LW.

The 1W Summary for the first half of 1972 lists 278 intruders, of which 106 were on 16

## NEW POSTAL ADDRESS FOR

W.I.A. FEDERAL EXECUTIVE

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MHz, 30 on 7 MHz, 21 on 21 MHz, and 18 on 3.5 MHz. These are reported mainly by VK3KX and VK3HA. Contributions came also from VK4s 4P3, 4I9C, 4CA, 4Z2, 4OP, 4UC, 4AKK, 4Z0, 4VO, 3TX and 4ASZ. On the 10 MHz band the broadcasters are listed including an Indonesian station on 7080 and the ever-present Chinese language stations together with Japanese. Most of the intruders on 14 and 21 MHz were logged in daylight hours, whereas the opposite occurred on 40 and 60 metres, thus suggesting a pattern which comes from areas somewhere to the north of us.

The list has been passed to the P.M.G. Dept., but what action is taken thereafter does not appear to achieve much result except that more intruders are being logged. However, we must keep up the reports to avoid a squatter's rights situation for the intruders.

An interesting item is contained in "Radio Communication," July 1972, page 446: "A radio station may operate in accordance with the Regulations as long as its operation does not cause harmful interference to the radio communication services operating in accordance with the convention and regulations. This means that a commercial station may operate in an Amateur band and may continue to do so so long as it does not cause harmful interference to the Administration. From this basic fact stems the need for an active and efficient monitoring watch." Go to it or you'll surely perish!

## "20 YEARS AGO"

With Ron Fisher, VK3OM

Atomic tests always seem to be making news one way or another. Back in 1953 tests were carried out at the Monte Bello Islands, and in the Editorial of October 1953 the Editor urged amateurs to make observations of any unusual propagation conditions.

Federal Executive went on to suggest that perhaps we should be helping to fill in the gaps which could be made by the Bureau of Prediction Service to provide even more accurate results than "at present" achieved. Perhaps we should.

Tucked away in the Federal Executive Proceedings column is news of the release of the 180 metre band for emergency work. The allocation was from 1946 to 1800 kHz. I do not remember anyone ever using the band, and probably because most Amateurs were unaware of just how they could legally use it. 180 was destined to remain silent for a few years yet.

Another item of far reaching interest concerned Novice and Technician licences. Consideration was given to a letter received from the Postmaster-General's Department, Wireless Branch, in reply to the W.I.A.'s application for approval for issuance of Novice and Technician licences. The Department advised that since amateur operators could not be licensed, arrangements would be necessary, inquiries were likely to be protracted. As we know, the 5/8 wave vertical antenna was not used until later, while the Novice licence still remains an issue.

Leading the technical articles, R. T. Busch, VK3LS, presented a run down of circuits suitable for emergency services using Simple transmitters, modulators, receivers and mobile serial systems were discussed.

During the 1950s the "All Models Exhibition" was a popular feature of Melbourne fairs. The Victorian Division of the W.I.A. was represented and a complete description of their display appeared in the October 1953 issue of "Amateur Radio". The whole display was organised by Len Moncur, VK3LN. Exhibits included transmitters and receivers for all bands, a complete television system and a tape recorder—all home made.

It seems rather a pity that these Exhibitions were dropped as it certainly gave the W.I.A. a wonderful opportunity to put Amateur Radio on display to the public.

In 1953, band switching an h.f. transmitter presented something of a problem. The following advertisement by R. H. Cunningham Pty. Ltd. showed the range of Q Max turret switched pa cou assemblies. These units incorporated a separate coil for each band complete with a separate output link coupler. Rather large when compared with current methods, but no doubt efficient.

## FREQUENCY ALLOCATIONS

### Band Usage Questionnaire

The W.I.A. has recently established a committee to be responsible for the orderly planning of frequency usage for various Amateur stations in the 1.6 to 30 MHz band. 30-54 MHz, 144-148 MHz, 420-430 MHz, and higher problems have arisen recently in the 144-148 MHz band, and the committee is now undertaking requirements of established f.m. repeaters and the soon-to-be-launched Oscar II satellite, not to mention channels used for f.m. simplex communication, i.e., and other activities.

Re-organisation of the 2 metre band, because of its urgency, is to be the first task of the committee, which is known as the W.I.A. Advisory Committee, and functions as part of the Executive of the W.I.A. Obviously one of the aims must be to reconcile the needs of the various users, where conflict may exist, so as to produce the minimum of inconvenience to those already established. Planning must be carried out at least on a national basis, and particularly for activities in the 2 metre band, there are international aspects involved.

As the first stage in the programme, data is required regarding the present usage and future requirements of the bands. It has been decided to obtain this by the wide distribution of a questionnaire to all radio clubs, and other organisations. The committee earnestly requests interested parties to study the questionnaire when received, and to supply the data called for as thoroughly as possible. One important aspect is to provide for newly-developing systems such as slow-scan tv, facsimile, or other techniques which may require v.h.f. and u.h.f. band users. The questionnaire is now in preparation, and will also be distributed to all radio clubs and other organisations. The committee earnestly requests interested parties to study the questionnaire when received, and to supply the data called for as thoroughly as possible. One important aspect is to provide for newly-developing systems such as slow-scan tv, facsimile, or other techniques which may require v.h.f. and u.h.f. band users. The questionnaire is now in preparation, and will also be distributed to all radio clubs and other organisations.

Only with the fullest possible knowledge of current and potential activity by Amateurs on v.h.f. and u.h.f. can the committee achieve its task of providing for all with minimum disturbance. Successful completion depends on co-operation. Only those who tell us of their frequency requirements can expect the final plan to have a place for them. May we, the Advisory Committee, hope to hear from you all in due course?

## Magazine Index

With Syd Clark, VK3ABC

### "Q&T"—JUNE

450 Cycle Centimetres of New Front End for Your FM Receiver 1220 MHz.; The W2FM 20 Metre Vertical Beam: More on Instant Voice Interruption; Antenna Impedance by Direct SWR Measurement; A Simple Ham Shack Wavemeter; Notes on the Amateur Station Construction; Why plot Net squirms 2 Metres 6.5 Wave Vertical; An IC Audio Tune-up Device for the Blind Amateur; An Adjustable Current Limited, 100 Watt, 500-5.5 kV; A.C. 1.1 Hz High Accuracy FET Dipper; Taking Out the 2 Metre Garbage can coaxial on 144 MHz.; Review of "Heavy AR 1000 Amplifier; Do You Hear Day Transistor?; Houston, This is Apollo...! (new Amateurs may equip themselves to receive signals directly from space vehicles).

### "HAM RADIO"—JUNE

Five-Band Solid State 100-30 MHz 100 tunable Collins 11 kHz. Filter II, TA300 Audio; Integrated Circuit, Sequential Switching for Touch-Tone Repeater; You Hear Day Transistor?; Accurate Noise Figure Measurements for VHF; Sync Generator for SSTV; Getting Started in Microwaves; Memo-Key.

## HEAT HKIT HAM GEAR

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Schlumberger Instrumentation Aust. P/L

112 High St, Kew, Vic., 3101. Ph. 88-9535





# AWARDS COLUMN

With Geoff Wilson,\* VK3AMK

## INCREASED CHARGES FOR W.I.A. AWARDS

At the 1972 Federal Convention it was decided to increase the cost of W.I.A. Federal awards to non members to \$1.00 per award. However, there is NO charge made to financial members of the W.I.A. for awards issued by the W.I.A.

## V.H.F. AWARDS

With the approach of the summer season and increased activity on the v.h.f. bands I would like to mention some of the awards available to v.h.f. operators. Most people will be looking for a new State or Call Area on their favourite band in the coming months to gain some long sought award. In most cases the addition of one more Call Area on v.h.f. is much more difficult than another country would be to confirm on h.f.

The W.I.A. currently offers two main v.h.f. awards with others to become available in the near future. The first is the "V.H.F.C.C.", which requires one hundred confirmations. It is available for both 6 and 2 metre operation. Full rules were given in "A.R." Jan. 1972. The second is the "W.A.S.", which requires one confirmation from each VK Call Area 1 to 6. Full rules were given in "A.R." Feb. 1971. Additional credit is given for each "country" worked, countries for the purpose of this award are as for the Australian D.X.C.C. To date the "W.A.S." award has only been issued for 6 metres, but several people are known to be very close to achieving 2 metres "W.A.S."

The N.Z.A.R.T. (ZL) offer the award "W.A.D." for confirmed contact with ZL1, ZL2, ZL3 and ZL4 on any v.h.f. band or mixture of v.h.f. bands. The award is issued free of charge. The J.A.R.L. (JA) offer three awards, which although difficult, are not impossible on v.h.f., especially for northern VK stations. The first is the "W.A.D." for confirmed contact with all JA districts 1 to 6. This has been obtained by a number of VKs. The second is the W.A.J.A., which requires confirmed contact with all 46 JA prefectures. The third, "J.C.C." requires confirmed contact with 100 JA cities. To prove that this is not an impossibility, Lyndsay VK4ZIM, recently applied for "J.C.C." for 300 cities—all on 6 metres.

Applications for both ZL and JA awards may

be certified by the Fed. Awards Manager W.I.A. so that cards need not be sent overseas.

In addition to the above awards, a number of VK clubs offer awards which are also available for v.h.f. operation.

## W.I.A. D.X.C.C.

Listed below are the highest twelve members in each section. Position in the list is determined by the first number shown. The first number represents the participant's total countries less any credits given for deleted countries. The second number shown represents the total D.X.C.C. credits given, including deleted countries. Where totals are the same, listings will be alphabetical by call sign. Credits for new members and those whose totals have been amended are also shown.

### PHONE—

VK3MS	318/344	VK3AR	285/314
VK3RU	317/344	VK2APK	282/300
VK4KS	312/338	VK4UC	282/300
VK3AOH	308/326	VK4PJ	285/307
VK5MK	302/324	VK4PK	284/288
VK4VK	300/301	VK4TY	283/288

### New Member:

Cert. No.	Call	Total
138	VK3BSA	130/131
Amendments:		
VK2AAK	278/279	VK4RF 229/230
VK2SG	263/265	VK3JF 130/140
VK3AHH	236/261	VK5SV 129/130

### C.W.—

VK4KH	308/326	VK3NC	272/297
VK2QL	294/326	VK3RU	264/289
VK3JL	291/300	VK3YD	252/281
VK3APK	285/287	VK4TY	252/272
VK4PJ	285/315	VK3TL	253/260
VK3XB	284/300	VK4VX	252/253

### Amendments:

VK3BJ	250/251	VK4JF	194/204
VK4RF	205/216	VK4PK	197/113

### OPEN—

VK3RU	317/344	VK4TY	265/321
VK4SD	314/330	VK3MK	302/324
VK3VN	313/333	VK4UC	301/303
VK4KS	312/325	VK3EO	300/325
VK4VX	307/308	VK2SG	290/306
VK3APK	306/319	VK4PJ	286/323

### New Member:

Cert. No.	Call	Total
149	VK7GC	111/119
Amendments:		
VK4PX	292/286	VK4JF 213/221
VK4RF	294/277	VK3AKK 128/128

## W.I.A. 25 MHz. W.A.S. AWARD

### New Member:

Cert. No.	Call	Add. Cont.
168	VK3ADM	5

## W.I.A. V.F.P.C.C.

### New Member:

Cert. No.	Call	Confirmations
84	VK2EYO	25 MHz. 144 MHz. — 108
Amendments:		
46	VK3ZNJ	285 —
47	VK3ZNJ	— 310
80	VK4ZIM	669 —

## HUNTER BRANCH AWARD



This is a Field Station  
has collected numbers of  
This certificate is a recognition of the outstanding performance

Specimen copy of the Hunter Branch Award Certificate issued by the Hunter Branch (NSW Division, W.I.A.). Rules for the Award will be given in November "A.R." Awards Column

## CONTESTS

(Continued from Page 18)

the original index of a field station and the other to give v.h.f. operators another entry into the competition.

The field station takes much more organising especially where a lot of people are involved compared with the mobile chap, h.f. or v.h.f., who gets into his car and goes for a drive. (I do both on field days.) So I propose the "Fixed" station division and the "mobile" station division. You may think that a separate contest would be better? Anyhow, let us try it out in 1973 and see how it works.

Definition of a "Fixed Field Station". Transmitters and receivers are to operate from a power supply which is not used in connection with moving a vehicle (who said horsepower?) or which is not connected to any permanent installation. A car battery CWT of the car is acceptable.

"Mobile Field Station". Txs and Rxs are to be installed in a vehicle.

Rules for the "Fixed" stations will be as last year plus a c.w. bonus. "Mobile" stations will be phone only—24-hour. Both divisions may work v.h.f. with a 2-hour interval as for the R.D. Contest.

Repeaters may be used. I see no reason why any operator should not enter both divisions provided he calls VK4XX/portable or VK4XX/mobile as the case may be and puts in separate logs. Any comments?

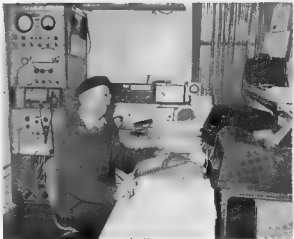
Rules in detail should appear in December "Amateur Radio".

There should be plenty of activity for all h.f., v.h.f., portables and mobiles. If certificates are given to overseas stations for VK portable or mobile contacts we may get some interest from there.

So what about getting yourself, and your friends, well organised for February 10 and 11, the second week-end in February 1973.

Note—if you join in it will be a good contest.

The Federal Contests Manager, Peter Brown, VK4PJ, in his well-equipped shack. However, he has to keep ample table top space free for checking contest logs.



Well known 5 metre DXer, Lyndsay VK4ZIM, who recently confirmed 200 different Japanese cities worked on the 6 metre band. Awards obtained by Lyndsay in recent years on v.h.f. have been the Cook Bi-Centenary Award, VHFCC and WAS. His current total of stations confirmed on 6 metres is 650.

\* 7 Norman Avenue, Frankston, Vic., 3199.

## Time: GMT

What has this to do with VK4KX? As one who is keenly interested in these posts, he offers the following suggestions. Take the time and trouble to log their operations and

My thanks to all who have written this month. I may be a little slow in answering due to impending move of QTB, but I will get around to it. Until notified otherwise, please send all mail to the same address.

**SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS!**  
Support yourself also by saying you saw  
it in "Amateur Radio."

## With Bruce Batholts,\* VICEASE OCT. '72

Smoothed Monthly Sunspot numbers predictions for September 55, October 53, November 51, December 49.

## NEW CALL SIGNS

JUNE 1972

VK1ZRH—R. G. Henderson, 65 Hanesford St.,  
Page, 2014.  
VK2AHC—D. Carr, 6 Gilles Cres., Deo Why,  
2089.  
VK2ACX—K. C. Smith, Flat 13, Telford Gar-  
dens, 29 Cottonwood Cres., Mansfield,  
2122.  
VK3BTC—R. C. McGregor, 44 Koola Ave.,  
Killara, 2071.  
VK2ACX—K. C. Smith, 44 Koola Ave.,  
Killara, 2071.  
VK2BZA—A. N. Cherry, 1/1 Denison St., Manly,  
2095.  
VK2HIF—J. Forrest, 33 Victoria St., Epping,  
2123.  
VK2HIF—A. A. Adams, 13 Frederick St., North  
Bondi, 2086.  
VK3BIO—W. A. A. Brown, 3 Bedford Pl.,  
Sutherland, 2218.  
VK2BJK—K. J. Blume, 87 Wyomee Ave., West  
Fyrmble, 2073.  
VK2BJL—D. R. Ragle, 1/446 Glebe Pl. Rd.,  
Glebe, 2057.  
VK2BRD—R. F. Drummond, 3 Shepherd St.,  
Goulburn, 2550.  
VK2BTC—C. T. Rylatt, Lot 1089, Kooloon  
Cres., Campbelltown, 2560.  
VK2ZD—D. J. McWilliam, 24/225 Victoria Ave.,  
Chesham, 2047.  
VK3XO—A. W. Sweetman, 35 Nerim Rd.,  
Camle Cove, 2288.  
VK2ZVF—B. W. Pratt, 10 Auburn Rd., Bir-  
rong, 2148.  
VK2ZXE—M. R. Beery, 135 Marsh St., Armi-  
dale, 2350.  
VK2ZXF—H. Malvin, 7 French St., Kings-  
wood, 2150.  
VK2ZXL—S. W. Wollin, 3 Kinsey St., Mosma,  
2128.  
VK2ZXL—J. E. Benger, 78A Watlie Rd., Jan-  
nall, 2128.  
VK2ZXL—D. B. Allan, 6 Phyllis St., Mt.  
Pritchard, 2170.  
VK2ZXL—E. Kiam, 48 Harriet St., Warriah,  
2299.  
VK2ZXL—P. Z. Hadwin, 48 Quintana Ave.,  
Baulkham Hills, 2163.  
VK2ZXL—D. H. Turner, 57 Rawson Rd., Woy  
Woy, 2255.  
VK2ZXL—J. McPherson, 33 Wat St., Raymond  
Terrace, 2254.  
VK2ZXL—B. W. Clark, 21 Erwin St., Tam-  
worth, 2342.

### Y. R. S.

Do you want to receive single side-  
band with ease on your SW radio?  
The Vic. Youth Radio Scheme has  
**455 kHz. BFO Kits**  
available to Juniors. Send  
**\$2 to Project Officer, VK3AQ, QTHR**

## "HAM RADIO MAGAZINE"

Focus on . . .  
Communications technology

announces a rise in subscrip-  
tion rates from 1st Jan., 1973.

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hold the existing rates for  
"Ham Radio Magazine" with-  
out change as a service to  
members.

**\$5.50 for 1 year**  
**\$11.50 for 2 years**

**W.I.A. MAGPUBS**

P.O. Box 150, Toorak, Vic., 3142

## SILENT KEYS

It is with deep regret that we  
record the passing of—

VK2SB—R. W. Chaplin  
VK4IM—J. D. MacLean  
VK5CK—R. V. Lapidge  
VK6HI—E. A. Hayward

VK2ZY—N. C. Chivers, 51 Meeks Cres., Faul-  
terton, 3776.  
VK2BVB—L. R. Durston, 4 Hillside Cres., Glen-  
brook, 2773.  
VK2ZXA—J. Mowatt, 8/21 Cornelia St., Funch-  
bush, 2148.  
VK2ZUS—G. W. Francis, 33 Falconer St., West  
Ryde, 2114.  
VK3CA—G. D. Whiter, 28 Simmons St., Box  
Hill, 3122.  
VK3CH—J. R. Ampt, 4 Ranelagh Rise, Lower  
Toomburra, 2127.  
VK3KK—R. F. Lloyd, 171 Cheddar Rd., West  
Keon Park, 3073.  
VK3VE—M. G. White, 68 Peter St., Box Hill  
North, 3128.  
VK3CDS—K. Sutcliffe, 66 Savage St., Morwell,  
3594.  
VK3YJO—P. J. Bassett, 23 Wilson St., Wod-  
onga, 3600.  
VK2ZRG—H. J. Bock, 4 Donna Ave., Kew,  
3101.  
VK3BGD—W. Williamson, 30 Latona Ave.,  
Knoxfield, 3180.  
VK4ED—R. J. Thomson, Station: Bil Bil, via  
Rusby, 3560.  
VK4ZAK—F. F. Adamson, 7 Gordon Ave., To-  
omburra, 2127.  
VK4ZAK—R. F. MacKenzie, 4 Laird St., Mac-  
quarie, 4740.  
VK4ZAP—K. J. Smith, 3/28 Baywater Tce.,  
Tomball, 4810.  
VK4ZIV—J. K. R. Vosper, 19 Belvedere St.,  
Holland Park West, 4121.  
VK4ZML—G. P. Lee-Mawar, 44 Webb St.,  
Stairford, 4033.  
VK4AH—J. W. Emmel, P.O. Box 282, Port  
Pirie, 5202.  
VK4AW—A. C. Wallace, 33 Edgeworth St.,  
Prospect, 5082.  
VK5UM—D. E. Taylor, Officers Mess, R.A.A.F.  
Edinburgh, 5111.  
VK5ZAG—B. B. Adams, 23 School Dr., Bank-  
sia Park, 5101.  
VK5ZBP—G. G. Beck, 81 Boandik Tce., Mt.  
Gambier, 5290.  
VK5ZBW—B. R. Williams, 45 Finsie Ave., Ingle  
Farm, 5188.  
VK5ZCQ—F. M. Cottell, 71 Wilease Rd., Mt.  
Gambier, 5298.  
VK5ZMF—T. J. McCarthy, 3 Warwick St.,  
Enfield, 5085.  
VK5ZPW—P. J. Wegener, P.O. Box 135, Angas-  
ton, 5353.  
VK5BZ—R. R. Brause, Station: 67 Omburham  
St., Wagin: Postal: 50 Ventnor St.,  
Wagin, 6335.  
VK6OW—D. J. Willoughby, 48 View Tce., East  
Fremantle, 6158.  
VK6RR—R. K. Green, 14 Doust St., Cammerlang,  
6107.  
VK6SD—R. Dupont, Flat 12, Robertson Crt.,  
185 Wimmeroo Rd., Tuart Hill, 6090.  
VK6WC—J. M. Conith, 4 Kilmbrake Way,  
Lywood, 6155.  
VK6ZC—E. M. Norris, Station: 48 Ronger Rd.,  
Mt. Yokine, 6090; Postal: C/o O.T.C.,  
P.O. Box 21, Balga, 6701.  
VK6ZHC—B. R. Gibbs, 20 Stewart St., Albany,  
6170.  
VK6ZD—T. P. Walters, Base Radio, R.A.A.F.,  
Darwin, 5783.  
VK6GO—R. S. Goldworthy, P.O. Box 28,  
Panguna, Bougainville.

## LICENSED AMATEURS IN VK

JUNE 1972	Full	Lm.	Total
VK60	6	1	7
VK61	81	26	107
VK62	1385	561	1946
VK63	1319	678	1997
VK64	630	208	838
VK65	534	538	1072
VK66	268	138	406
VK67	153	66	219
VK68	18	45	63
VK69	90	14	104
4008	1897	5389	Grand Total

## KEY SECTION

With Osme Blackman, VK3TX

As I have been overseas this past month I  
have not had time to collect material for this  
month's column. So let me bring you up to  
date with new members:

VK4BFF 28 VK3B3 22 VK4SS  
VK4BDO 26 VK4OD 33 VK4EE  
VK4BCK 27 VK4V 34 VK4VO  
VK4BKA 28 VK4B3 35 VK3B3  
VK4BAC 29 VK4GO 36 VK4BL  
VK4B3 37 VK4B3 38 VK4B3  
24 VK4HT 31 VK4G5 39 VK3ABR

Applications received after August will  
appear in a later list.

For ease of reference, the Divisional co-  
ordinators of the Key Section are: VK3YB,  
VK3XB, VK4DP, VK4SM, VK4WT, VK4TL. If  
you have any ideas for the Section they will  
be happy to discuss them with you.

\* 44 Rathmullen Rd., Boronia, Vic., 3158.

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imaged.
- Excludes commercial-class advertising.
- Exceptions only by PRIOR arrangement.

For full details see January 1972 "A.R." page 23.

## FOR SALE

Melbourne, Vic. Type RCIA AWA Control Unit  
control of A.A. Set, Unit, complete  
with circuit, good condition, \$25. VK3ZMR, Phone  
305-7338

Canfield, Vic. "Radio Communication" 1967-1972  
20c "Wireless World 1954-1985 10c." "DH" 1982-  
1985, 10c. "Practical Electronics" 1954-1987, 10c;  
some full years. VK3WQ, QTHR, Ph. 211-5196

Footscray West, Vic. 14AVD Antenna 40 through  
10 m. grid order with assembly instructions, \$28.  
VK3ZM, QTHR, Ph. (03) 883-3135 (AHI).

Seridje, Vic. 589 160-0 m, 150W PED, G2AF  
100 plus or minus 250 kHz; EEP, E88 Dia,  
U/L 38, VOX, Bi-in, app. HD PSU, xtl, m.k.e., pro-  
fessionally constructed/aligned, proven DXR, 1/20  
on/c, genuine sale. Birch, VK3SD QTH, Ph.  
(054) 43 1877

Melbourne, Vic. 160 m Mobile Transceiver, 20  
watt output; SSB Transceiver P8U, 240 v.c; AC  
Latayette Dig Dip Meter; BF Amplifier, 2 amp  
PSD, co-axial mounting VK3BR, QTH, Ph. (03)  
88-5531 ext 2237

Melbourne, Vic. Yessu FLDX40 T2, \$253. Will  
sell as FLDX40 R4 if transceiver required.  
VK3AF, QTHR, Ph. (03) 847-5401

Woomers, S.A. FT200 Transceiver with FP200 P.S.U.  
only three months use, \$390. Semi-automatic Bug  
Key, \$8 Postage extra. VK3WC, QTHR

Melbourne, Vic. Telescopio Tower, 4 x 25 foot  
sections, galvanneal, built-in wind and cable.  
Sec. VK3UT, Ph. (03) 314-8763

## WANTED

Sydney, N.S.W. Linear Amp FL300B or FL250,  
VK29C, P.O. Box 111, Kingsford, N.S.W., Phone  
38-2386.

Beneil, Vic. Type 210 Valve Required for early  
transmitter project. VK3PF, QTHR

Brisbane, Qld.: Morse Keys, any type, age or  
condition. Price, parties to A. Shawman, VK4SB,  
QTHR, Ph. (072) 44-1586.

Melbourne, Vic. "Amateur Radio" complete vol-  
umes 1950 and earlier. To complete my files. Top  
page 28/8 from Phil Fletcher, VK3OM, QTHR Ph. (03)  
590-0215

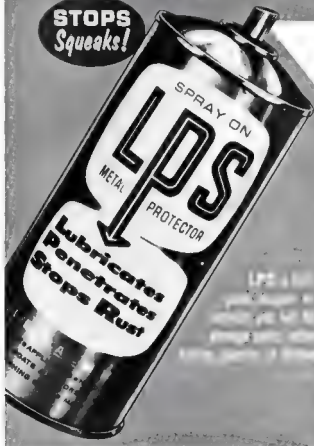
Ocean Grove, Vic. AWA 8C Receiver and Call  
Boxes. VK3ZK, Box 32, Ocean Grove, Vic. 3228.

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**Dielectric Constant per ASTM-877:**

Dielectric Constant 2.11, Dissipation Factor: 0.02.

**Dielectric Strength per ASTM D-150:**

Breakdown Voltage 0.1 inch gap, 32,000 volts.

Dielectric Strength volts/inch, 320,000 volts.

**Flash Point (Dried Film),** 900 degrees F.

**Fire Point (Dried Film),** 900 degrees F.

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**Lawrence Hydrogen Embrittlement Test for Safety on High Tensile Strength Steels:** Passed. Certified safe within limits of Douglas Service Bulletin 13-1 and Boeing D6 17487.

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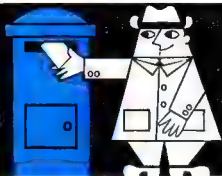
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# WIRELESS INSTITUTE OF AUSTRALIA

## PROJECT AUSTRALIS

### STANDARD ORBITS — OSCAR 6

This set of Standard Orbits and the Ascending Nodes (the longitude in degrees West and the time in hours, minutes and seconds, G.M.T., of the satellite's path over the Earth, when it crosses the Equator, travelling into the Northern Hemisphere) is the only information needed to track OSCAR 6. It also allows calculation of when the satellite will be in range of the areas around other State capitals.

The morning (Southbound, at around 0900, local time) orbits over Australia have Ascending Nodes between 80 and 290 degrees West, while the evening (Northbound, at 2100 local time) orbits have Ascending Nodes between 150 and 275 degrees West. As a guide, the morning orbits will have smaller numbers at the start of the "ASCN NODE ADD MINS" column (between 56 and 82 minutes), than the evening orbits (between 86 and 104 minutes).

Ascending Nodes will be transmitted in Morse Code by the Codes-tore system on OSCAR 6 (29.45 and 435.1 MHz), and will also be announced on the weekly Divisional broadcasts.

If you are in or near Sydney, and want to track a (morning) orbit which has an ascending node of 359 degrees West at 2157 G.M.T., select the closest Standard Orbit from the Sydney set — 360 degrees West. Add 58 minutes to 2157 G.M.T., and you will hear the satellite at 2255 G.M.T. Time, azimuth and elevation points are given every two minutes on the Standard Orbits.

Because the satellite is in an almost circular (1460Km), near-polar orbit, with each orbit being completed in 115 minutes, given one Ascending Node (say, 330 degrees West at 1905 G.M.T.), later Ascending Nodes can be determined by simply adding the distance in degrees which separates the orbits at the Equator (the Nodal Increment, 28.8 degrees), to 330, and adding 115 minutes to 1095 G.M.T. The result is, in round figures, 359 degrees West at 2157 G.M.T., for the next orbit.

To see whether the orbit which you are tracking in Sydney will be in range of Perth, look at the Perth Standard Orbit which corresponds with the orbit that you are following. If you are tracking an orbit with an Ascending Node of 359 degrees West and are using the 360 degrees West Standard Orbit for Sydney, OSCAR 6 will be in range of Sydney from 58 to 78 minutes after the Ascending Node (2255 to 2315 G.M.T., on the example above), a total of 20 minutes. The same orbit will be in range of Perth from 68 to 78 minutes after the Ascending Node (2305 to 2315 G.M.T.). Therefore, that orbit will be in range of both Sydney and Perth from 2305 to 2315 G.M.T., so that 10 minutes of contact through the satellite will be possible. By selecting an orbit that passes midway between Sydney and Perth (e.g., an Ascending Node of 25 degrees West), contacts of up to 18 minutes are possible. For contact with New Zealand, orbits to the East of Australia should be used, while for contacts into Asia, orbits in the North and West should be used.

Users of Standard Orbits should note that the sets of Southbound Orbits start towards the end of the set (315 degrees West for Sydney) and resume at the beginning of each set (0 degrees West for Sydney), ending near the middle of the set (45 degrees West for Sydney). They are then immediately followed by the first of the Northbound orbits (150 degrees West for Sydney). It was not possible in the short time available after the OSCAR 6 launch rocket was changed to put the Southbound orbits in continuous order).

Assuming a launch at 1715 G.M.T., on 9th, October, the first Ascending Nodes bringing orbits in range of Australia will be:—

Orbit 1	324 W at 1842 GMT	9/10/72 Southbound
Orbit 2	353 W at 2037 GMT	9/10/72 Southbound
Orbit 3	22 W at 2232 GMT	9/10/72 Southbound
Orbit 4	50 W at 0028 GMT	10/10/72 Southbound
Orbit 8	166 W at 0809 GMT	10/10/72 Northbound
Orbit 9	194 W at 1004 GMT	1/10/72 Northbound
Orbit 223	W at 1159 GMT	10/10/72 Northbound
Orbit 252	W at 1354 GMT	10/10/72 Northbound

Any change in the OSCAR 6 launch date will alter the times, but not the longitudes of the Ascending Nodes. Any alterations will be notified on Divisional broadcasts.

INSERT WITH AMATEUR RADIO OCTOBER 1972





SYDNEY

[illegible]

## MELBOURNE